

# 1. Introduction

**T**his report presents estimates by the United States government of U.S. anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions and sinks for the years 1990 through 2000. A summary of these estimates is provided in Table 1-8 and Table 1-9 by gas and source category. The emission estimates in these tables are presented on both a full molecular mass basis and on a Global Warming Potential (GWP) weighted basis in order to show the relative contribution of each gas to global average radiative forcing.<sup>1,2</sup> This report also discusses the methods and data used to calculate these emission estimates.

In June of 1992, the United States signed, and later ratified in October, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The objective of the UNFCCC is “to achieve...stabilization of greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system.”<sup>3,4</sup>

Parties to the Convention, by signing, make commitments “to develop, periodically update, publish and make available...national inventories of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of all greenhouse gases not controlled by the Montreal Protocol, using comparable methodologies...”<sup>5</sup> The United States views this report as an opportunity to fulfill this commitment under the UNFCCC.

In 1988, preceding the creation of the UNFCCC, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) was jointly established by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). The charter of the IPCC is to assess available scientific information on climate change, assess the environmental and socio-economic impacts of climate change, and formulate response strategies (IPCC 1996). Under Working Group 1 of the IPCC, nearly 140 scientists and national experts from more than thirty countries collaborated in the creation of the *Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories* (IPCC/UNEP/OECD/IEA 1997) to ensure that the emission inventories submitted to the UNFCCC are consistent and comparable between nations. The *Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines* were accepted by the IPCC at its Twelfth Session (Mexico City, 11-13 September 1996). The information provided in this inventory is presented in accordance with these guidelines. Additionally, in order to fully comply with the *Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines*, the United States has provided estimates of carbon dioxide emissions from fossil fuel combustion using the IPCC Reference Approach in Annex U. In addition, this inventory is in accordance with the recently published IPCC *Good Practice Guidance and Uncertainty Management in National Greenhouse Gas Inventories*, which further expanded upon the methodologies in the *Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines*.

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<sup>1</sup> See the section below entitled *Global Warming Potentials* for an explanation of GWP values.

<sup>2</sup> See the section below entitled *What is Climate Change?* for an explanation of radiative forcing.

<sup>3</sup> The term “anthropogenic”, in this context, refers to greenhouse gas emissions and removals that are a direct result of human activities or are the result of natural processes that have been affected by human activities (IPCC/UNEP/OECD/IEA 1997).

<sup>4</sup> Article 2 of the Framework Convention on Climate Change published by the UNEP/WMO Information Unit on Climate Change. See <<http://www.unfccc.de>>. (UNEP/WMO 2000)

<sup>5</sup> Article 4 of the Framework Convention on Climate Change published by the UNEP/WMO Information Unit on Climate Change (also identified in Article 12). See <<http://www.unfccc.de>>. (UNEP/WMO 2000)

Overall, the purpose of an inventory of anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions is (1) to provide a basis for the ongoing development of methodologies for estimating sources and sinks of greenhouse gases; (2) to provide a common and consistent mechanism through which Parties to the UNFCCC can estimate emissions and compare the relative contribution of individual sources, gases, and nations to climate change; and (3) as a prerequisite for accounting for reductions and evaluating possible mitigation strategies.

## What is Climate Change?

Climate change refers to long-term fluctuations in temperature, precipitation, wind, and other elements of the Earth's climate system.<sup>6</sup> Natural processes such as solar-irradiance variations, variations in the Earth's orbital parameters,<sup>7</sup> and volcanic activity can produce variations in climate. The climate system can also be influenced by changes in the concentration of various gases in the atmosphere, which affect the Earth's absorption of radiation.

The Earth naturally absorbs and reflects incoming solar radiation and emits longer wavelength terrestrial (thermal) radiation back into space. On average, the absorbed solar radiation is balanced by the outgoing terrestrial radiation emitted to space. A portion of this terrestrial radiation, though, is itself absorbed by gases in the atmosphere. The energy from this absorbed terrestrial radiation warms the Earth's surface and atmosphere, creating what is known as the "natural greenhouse effect." Without the natural heat-trapping properties of these atmospheric gases, the average surface temperature of the Earth would be about 33°C lower (IPCC 2001).

Under the UNFCCC, the definition of climate change is "a change of climate which is attributed directly or indirectly to human activity that alters the composition of the global atmosphere and which is in addition to natural climate variability observed over comparable time periods."<sup>8</sup> Given that definition, in its Second Assessment Report of the science of climate change, the IPCC concluded that:

*Human activities are changing the atmospheric concentrations and distributions of greenhouse gases and aerosols. These changes can produce a radiative forcing by changing either the reflection or absorption of solar radiation, or the emission and absorption of terrestrial radiation (IPCC 1996).*

Building on that conclusion, the more recent IPCC Third Assessment Report asserts that "[c]oncentrations of atmospheric greenhouse gases and their radiative forcing have continued to increase as a result of human activities." (IPCC 2001)

The IPCC went on to report that the global average surface temperature of the Earth has increased by between  $0.6 \pm 0.2^\circ \text{C}$  over the 20<sup>th</sup> century (IPCC 2001). This value is about  $0.15^\circ \text{C}$  larger than that estimated by the Second Assessment Report, which reported for the period up to 1994, "owing to the relatively high temperatures of the additional years (1995 to 2000) and improved methods of processing the data" (IPCC 2001).

While the Second Assessment Report concluded, "the balance of evidence suggests that there is a discernible human influence on global climate," the Third Assessment Report states the influence of human activities on climate in even starker terms. It concludes that, "[I]n light of new evidence and taking into account the remaining uncertainties, most of the observed warming over the last 50 years is likely to have been due to the increase in greenhouse gas concentrations" (IPCC 2001).

## Greenhouse Gases

Although the Earth's atmosphere consists mainly of oxygen and nitrogen, neither plays a significant role in enhancing the greenhouse effect because both are essentially transparent to terrestrial radiation. The greenhouse effect is primarily a function of the concentration of water vapor, carbon dioxide, and other trace gases in the atmosphere that absorb the terrestrial radiation leaving the surface of the Earth (IPCC 1996). Changes in the atmospheric concentrations of these greenhouse gases can alter the

<sup>6</sup> The Earth's climate system comprises the atmosphere, oceans, biosphere, cryosphere, and geosphere.

<sup>7</sup> For example, eccentricity, precession, and inclination.

<sup>8</sup> Article 1 of the Framework Convention on Climate Change published by the UNEP/WMO Information Unit on Climate Change. (UNEP/WMO 2000)

balance of energy transfers between the atmosphere, space, land, and the oceans. A gauge of these changes is called radiative forcing, which is a simple measure of changes in the energy available to the Earth-atmosphere system (IPCC 1996). Holding everything else constant, increases in greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere will produce positive radiative forcing (i.e., a net increase in the absorption of energy by the Earth).

*Climate change can be driven by changes in the atmospheric concentrations of a number of radiatively active gases and aerosols. We have clear evidence that human activities have affected concentrations, distributions and life cycles of these gases* (IPCC 1996).

Naturally occurring greenhouse gases include water vapor, carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O), and ozone (O<sub>3</sub>). Several classes of halogenated substances that contain fluorine, chlorine, or bromine are also greenhouse gases, but they are, for the most part, solely a product of industrial activities. Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) and hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) are halocarbons that contain chlorine, while halocarbons that contain bromine are referred to as bromofluorocarbons (i.e., halons). Because CFCs, HCFCs, and halons are stratospheric ozone depleting substances, they are covered under the *Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer*. The UNFCCC defers to this earlier international treaty; consequently these gases are not included in national greenhouse gas inventories.<sup>9</sup> Some other fluorine containing halogenated substances—hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), and sulfur hexafluoride (SF<sub>6</sub>)—do not deplete stratospheric ozone but are potent greenhouse gases. These latter substances are addressed by the UNFCCC and accounted for in national greenhouse gas inventories.

There are also several gases that, although they do not have a commonly agreed upon direct radiative forcing effect, do influence the global radiation budget. These tropospheric gases referred to as ambient air pollutants include carbon monoxide (CO), nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>), sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>), and tropospheric (ground level) ozone (O<sub>3</sub>). Tropospheric ozone is formed by two precursor pollutants, volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>) in the presence of ultraviolet light (sunlight). Aerosols

extremely small particles or liquid droplets often composed of sulfur compounds, carbonaceous combustion products, crustal materials and other human induced pollutants can affect the absorptive characteristics of the atmosphere. However, the level of scientific understanding of aerosols is still very low (IPCC 2001).

Carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide are continuously emitted to and removed from the atmosphere by natural processes on Earth. Anthropogenic activities, however, can cause additional quantities of these and other greenhouse gases to be emitted or sequestered, thereby changing their global average atmospheric concentrations. Natural activities such as respiration by plants or animals and seasonal cycles of plant growth and decay are examples of processes that only cycle carbon or nitrogen between the atmosphere and organic biomass. Such processes except when directly or indirectly perturbed out of equilibrium by anthropogenic activities generally do not alter average atmospheric greenhouse gas concentrations over decadal timeframes. Climatic changes resulting from anthropogenic activities, however, could have positive or negative feedback effects on these natural systems. Atmospheric concentrations of these gases, along with their rates of growth and atmospheric lifetimes, are presented in Table 1-1.

A brief description of each greenhouse gas, its sources, and its role in the atmosphere is given below. The following section then explains the concept of Global Warming Potentials (GWPs), which are assigned to individual gases as a measure of their relative average global radiative forcing effect.

*Water Vapor (H<sub>2</sub>O).* Overall, the most abundant and dominant greenhouse gas in the atmosphere is water vapor. Water vapor is neither long-lived nor well mixed in the atmosphere, varying spatially from 0 to 2 percent (IPCC 1996). In addition, atmospheric water can exist in several physical states including gaseous, liquid, and solid. Human activities are not believed to directly affect the average global concentration of water vapor; however, the radiative forcing produced by the increased concentrations of other greenhouse gases may indirectly affect the hydrologic cycle. A warmer atmosphere has an increased water holding capacity; yet, increased concentrations of water vapor affects the formation of clouds, which can both absorb and reflect

<sup>9</sup> Emissions estimates of CFCs, HCFCs, halons and other ozone-depleting substances are included in this document for informational purposes.

**Table 1-1: Global atmospheric concentration (ppm unless otherwise specified), rate of concentration change (ppb/year) and atmospheric lifetime (years) of selected greenhouse gases**

Atmospheric Variable	CO <sub>2</sub>	CH <sub>4</sub>	N <sub>2</sub> O	SF <sub>6</sub> <sup>a</sup>	CF <sub>4</sub> <sup>a</sup>
Pre-industrial atmospheric concentration	278	0.700	0.270	0	40
Atmospheric concentration (1998)	365	1.745	0.314	4.2	80
Rate of concentration change <sup>b</sup>	1.5 <sup>c</sup>	0.007 <sup>c</sup>	0.0008	0.24	1.0
Atmospheric Lifetime	50-200 <sup>d</sup>	12 <sup>e</sup>	114 <sup>e</sup>	3,200	>50,000

Source: IPCC (2001)

<sup>a</sup> Concentrations in parts per trillion (ppt) and rate of concentration change in ppt/year.

<sup>b</sup> Rate is calculated over the period 1990 to 1999.

<sup>c</sup> Rate has fluctuated between 0.9 and 2.8 ppm per year for CO<sub>2</sub> and between 0 and 0.013 ppm per year for CH<sub>4</sub> over the period 1990 to 1999.

<sup>d</sup> No single lifetime can be defined for CO<sub>2</sub> because of the different rates of uptake by different removal processes.

<sup>e</sup> This lifetime has been defined as an “adjustment time” that takes into account the indirect effect of the gas on its own residence time.

solar and terrestrial radiation. Aircraft contrails, which consist of water vapor and other aircraft emittants, are similar to clouds in their radiative forcing effects (IPCC 1999).

*Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>).* In nature, carbon is cycled between various atmospheric, oceanic, land biotic, marine biotic, and mineral reservoirs. The largest fluxes occur between the atmosphere and terrestrial biota, and between the atmosphere and surface water of the oceans. In the atmosphere, carbon predominantly exists in its oxidized form as CO<sub>2</sub>. Atmospheric carbon dioxide is part of this global carbon cycle, and therefore its fate is a complex function of geochemical and biological processes. Carbon dioxide concentrations in the atmosphere increased from approximately 280 parts per million by volume (ppmv) in pre-industrial<sup>10</sup> times to 367 ppmv in 1999, a 31 percent increase (IPCC 2001).<sup>11</sup> The IPCC notes that “[t]his concentration has not been exceeded during the past 420,000 years, and likely not during the past 20 million years. The rate of increase over the past century is unprecedented, at least during the past 20,000 years.” The IPCC definitively states that “the present atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> increase is caused by anthropogenic emissions of CO<sub>2</sub>” (IPCC 2001). Forest clearing, other biomass burning, and some non-energy production processes (e.g., cement production) also emit notable quantities of carbon dioxide.

In its second assessment, the IPCC also stated that “[t]he increased amount of carbon dioxide [in the atmosphere] is leading to climate change and will produce,

on average, a global warming of the Earth’s surface because of its enhanced greenhouse effect although the magnitude and significance of the effects are not fully resolved” (IPCC 1996).

*Methane (CH<sub>4</sub>).* Methane is primarily produced through anaerobic decomposition of organic matter in biological systems. Agricultural processes such as wetland rice cultivation, enteric fermentation in animals, and the decomposition of animal wastes emit CH<sub>4</sub>, as does the decomposition of municipal solid wastes. Methane is also emitted during the production and distribution of natural gas and petroleum, and is released as a by-product of coal mining and incomplete fossil fuel combustion. Atmospheric concentrations of methane have increased by about 150 percent since pre-industrial times, although the rate of increase has been declining. The IPCC has estimated that slightly more than half of the current CH<sub>4</sub> flux to the atmosphere is anthropogenic, from human activities such as agriculture, fossil fuel use and waste disposal (IPCC 2001).

Methane is removed from the atmosphere by reacting with the hydroxyl radical (OH) and is ultimately converted to CO<sub>2</sub>. Minor removal processes also include reaction with Cl in the marine boundary layer, a soil sink, and stratospheric reactions. Increasing emissions of methane reduce the concentration of OH, a feedback which may increase methane’s atmospheric lifetime (IPCC 2001).

<sup>10</sup> The pre-industrial period is considered as the time preceding the year 1750 (IPCC 2001).

<sup>11</sup> Carbon dioxide concentrations during the last 1,000 years of the pre-industrial period (i.e., 750-1750), a time of relative climate stability, fluctuated by about ± 10 ppmv around 280 ppmv (IPCC 2001).

*Nitrous Oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O).* Anthropogenic sources of N<sub>2</sub>O emissions include agricultural soils, especially the use of synthetic and manure fertilizers; fossil fuel combustion, especially from mobile combustion; adipic (nylon) and nitric acid production; wastewater treatment and waste combustion; and biomass burning. The atmospheric concentration of nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O) has increased by 16 percent since 1750, from a pre industrial value of about 270 ppb to 314 ppb in 1998, a concentration that has not been exceeded during the last thousand years. Nitrous oxide is primarily removed from the atmosphere by the photolytic action of sunlight in the stratosphere.

*Ozone (O<sub>3</sub>).* Ozone is present in both the upper stratosphere,<sup>12</sup> where it shields the Earth from harmful levels of ultraviolet radiation, and at lower concentrations in the troposphere,<sup>13</sup> where it is the main component of anthropogenic photochemical “smog.” During the last two decades, emissions of anthropogenic chlorine and bromine-containing halocarbons, such as chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), have depleted stratospheric ozone concentrations. This loss of ozone in the stratosphere has resulted in negative radiative forcing, representing an indirect effect of anthropogenic emissions of chlorine and bromine compounds (IPCC 1996). The depletion of stratospheric ozone and its radiative forcing was expected to reach a maximum in about 2000 before starting to recover, with detection of such recovery not expected to occur much before 2010 (IPCC 2001).

The past increase in tropospheric ozone, which is also a greenhouse gas, is estimated to provide the third largest increase in direct radiative forcing since the pre-industrial era, behind CO<sub>2</sub> and CH<sub>4</sub>. Tropospheric ozone is produced from complex chemical reactions of volatile organic compounds mixing with nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>) in the presence of sunlight. Ozone, carbon monoxide (CO), sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>), nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) and particulate

matter are included in the category referred to as “criteria pollutants” in the United States under the Clean Air Act<sup>14</sup> and its subsequent amendments. The tropospheric concentrations of ozone and these other pollutants are short-lived and, therefore, spatially variable.

*Halocarbons, Perfluorocarbons, and Sulfur Hexafluoride (SF<sub>6</sub>).* Halocarbons are, for the most part, man-made chemicals that have both direct and indirect radiative forcing effects. Halocarbons that contain chlorine chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs), methyl chloroform, and carbon tetrachloride and bromine halons, methyl bromide, and hydrobromofluorocarbons (HBFCs) result in stratospheric ozone depletion and are therefore controlled under the *Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer*. Although CFCs and HCFCs include potent global warming gases, their net radiative forcing effect on the atmosphere is reduced because they cause stratospheric ozone depletion, which is itself an important greenhouse gas in addition to shielding the Earth from harmful levels of ultraviolet radiation. Under the *Montreal Protocol*, the United States phased out the production and importation of halons by 1994 and of CFCs by 1996. Under the Copenhagen Amendments to the *Protocol*, a cap was placed on the production and importation of HCFCs by non-Article 5<sup>15</sup> countries beginning in 1996, and then followed by a complete phase-out by the year 2030. The ozone depleting gases covered under the *Montreal Protocol* and its Amendments are not covered by the UNFCCC; however, they are reported in this inventory under Annex R.

Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), and sulfur hexafluoride (SF<sub>6</sub>) are not ozone depleting substances, and therefore are not covered under the *Montreal Protocol*. They are, however, powerful greenhouse gases. HFCs primarily used as replacements for ozone depleting substances but also emitted as a by-product of the HCFC-22 manufacturing process currently have a small aggregate radiative forcing impact; however, it is anticipated that their

<sup>12</sup> The stratosphere is the layer from the troposphere up to roughly 50 kilometers. In the lower regions the temperature is nearly constant but in the upper layer the temperature increases rapidly because of sunlight absorption by the ozone layer. The ozone-layer is the part of the stratosphere from 19 kilometers up to 48 kilometers where the concentration of ozone reaches up to 10 parts per million.

<sup>13</sup> The troposphere is the layer from the ground up to 11 kilometers near the poles and up to 16 kilometers in equatorial regions (i.e., the lowest layer of the atmosphere where people live). It contains roughly 80 percent of the mass of all gases in the atmosphere and is the site for most weather processes, including most of the water vapor and clouds.

<sup>14</sup> [42 U.S.C § 7408, CAA § 108]

<sup>15</sup> Article 5 of the *Montreal Protocol* covers several groups of countries, especially developing countries, with low consumption rates of ozone depleting substances. Developing countries with per capita consumption of less than 0.3 kg of certain ozone depleting substances (weighted by their ozone depleting potential) receive financial assistance and a grace period of ten additional years in the phase-out of ozone depleting substances.



contribution to overall radiative forcing will increase (IPCC 2001). PFCs and SF<sub>6</sub> are predominantly emitted from various industrial processes including aluminum smelting, semiconductor manufacturing, electric power transmission and distribution, and magnesium casting. Currently, the radiative forcing impact of PFCs and SF<sub>6</sub> is also small; however, they have a significant growth rate, extremely long atmospheric lifetimes, and are strong absorbers of infrared radiation, and therefore have the potential to influence climate far into the future (IPCC 2001).

*Carbon Monoxide (CO).* Carbon monoxide has an indirect radiative forcing effect by elevating concentrations of CH<sub>4</sub> and tropospheric ozone through chemical reactions with other atmospheric constituents (e.g., the hydroxyl radical, OH) that would otherwise assist in destroying CH<sub>4</sub> and tropospheric ozone. Carbon monoxide is created when carbon-containing fuels are burned incompletely. Through natural processes in the atmosphere, it is eventually oxidized to CO<sub>2</sub>. Carbon monoxide concentrations are both short-lived in the atmosphere and spatially variable.

*Nitrogen Oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>).* The primary climate change effects of nitrogen oxides (i.e., NO and NO<sub>2</sub>) are indirect and result from their role in promoting the formation of ozone in the troposphere and, to a lesser degree, lower stratosphere, where it has positive radiative forcing effects.<sup>16</sup> Additionally, NO<sub>x</sub> emissions from aircraft are also likely to decrease methane concentrations, thus having a negative radiative forcing effect (IPCC 1999). Nitrogen oxides are created from lightning, soil microbial activity, biomass burning — both natural and anthropogenic fires — fuel combustion, and, in the stratosphere, from the photo-degradation of nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O). Concentrations of NO<sub>x</sub> are both relatively short-lived in the atmosphere and spatially variable.

*Nonmethane Volatile Organic Compounds (NMVOCs).* Nonmethane volatile organic compounds include compounds such as propane, butane, and ethane. These compounds participate, along with NO<sub>x</sub>, in the formation of tropospheric ozone and other photochemical oxidants. NMVOCs are emitted primarily from transportation and

industrial processes, as well as biomass burning and non-industrial consumption of organic solvents. Concentrations of NMVOCs tend to be both short-lived in the atmosphere and spatially variable.

*Aerosols.* Aerosols are extremely small particles or liquid droplets found in the atmosphere. They can be produced by natural events such as dust storms and volcanic activity, or by anthropogenic processes such as fuel combustion and biomass burning. They affect radiative forcing in both direct and indirect ways: directly by scattering and absorbing solar and thermal infrared radiation; and indirectly by increasing droplet counts that modify the formation, precipitation efficiency, and radiative properties of clouds. Aerosols are removed from the atmosphere relatively rapidly by precipitation. Because aerosols generally have short atmospheric lifetimes, and have concentrations and compositions that vary regionally, spatially, and temporally, their contributions to radiative forcing are difficult to quantify (IPCC 2001).

The indirect radiative forcing from aerosols are typically divided into two effects. The first effect involves decreased droplet size and increased droplet concentration resulting from an increase in airborne aerosols. The second effect involves an increase in the water content and lifetime of clouds due to the effect of reduced droplet size on precipitation efficiency (IPCC 2001). Recent research has placed a greater focus on the second indirect radiative forcing effect of aerosols.

Various categories of aerosols exist, including naturally produced aerosols such as soil dust, sea salt, biogenic aerosols, sulphates, and volcanic aerosols, and anthropogenically manufactured aerosols such as industrial dust and carbonaceous<sup>17</sup> aerosols (e.g., black carbon, organic carbon) from transportation, coal combustion, cement manufacturing, waste incineration, and biomass burning.

The net effect of aerosols is believed to produce a negative radiative forcing effect (i.e., net cooling effect on the climate), although because they are short-lived in the atmosphere lasting days to weeks their concentrations

<sup>16</sup> NO<sub>x</sub> emissions injected higher in the stratosphere, primarily from fuel combustion emissions from high altitude supersonic aircraft, can lead to stratospheric ozone depletion.

<sup>17</sup> Carbonaceous aerosols are aerosols that are comprised mainly of organic substances and forms of black carbon (or soot) (IPCC 2001).

respond rapidly to changes in emissions.<sup>18</sup> Locally, the negative radiative forcing effects of aerosols can offset the positive forcing of greenhouse gases (IPCC 1996). “However, the aerosol effects do not cancel the global-scale effects of the much longer-lived greenhouse gases, and significant climate changes can still result” (IPCC 1996).

The IPCC’s Third Assessment Report notes that “the indirect radiative effect of aerosols is now understood to also encompass effects on ice and mixed-phase clouds, but the magnitude of any such indirect effect is not known, although it is likely to be positive” (IPCC 2001). Additionally, current research suggests that another constituent of aerosols may have a positive radiative forcing (Jacobson 2001). The primary anthropogenic emission sources of elemental carbon include diesel exhaust, coal combustion, and biomass burning.

**Table 1-2: Global Warming Potentials and Atmospheric Lifetimes (Years)**

Gas	Atmospheric Lifetime	GWP <sup>a</sup>
Carbon dioxide (CO <sub>2</sub> )	50-200	1
Methane (CH <sub>4</sub> ) <sup>b</sup>	12.3	21
Nitrous oxide (N <sub>2</sub> O)	120	310
HFC-23	264	11,700
HFC-32	5.6	650
HFC-125	32.6	2,800
HFC-134a	14.6	1,300
HFC-143a	48.3	3,800
HFC-152a	1.5	140
HFC-227ea	36.5	2,900
HFC-236fa	209	6,300
HFC-4310mee	17.1	1,300
CF <sub>4</sub>	50,000	6,500
C <sub>2</sub> F <sub>6</sub>	10,000	9,200
C <sub>4</sub> F <sub>10</sub>	2,600	7,000
C <sub>6</sub> F <sub>14</sub>	3,200	7,400
SF <sub>6</sub>	3,200	23,900

Source: (IPCC 1996)

<sup>a</sup> 100 year time horizon

<sup>b</sup> The methane GWP includes the direct effects and those indirect effects due to the production of tropospheric ozone and stratospheric water vapor. The indirect effect due to the production of CO<sub>2</sub> is not included.

## Global Warming Potentials

A Global Warming Potential (GWP) is intended as a quantified measure of the globally averaged relative radiative forcing impacts of a particular greenhouse gas (see Table 1-2). It is defined as the ratio of the time-integrated radiative forcing from the instantaneous release of 1 kg of a trace substance relative to that of 1 kg of a reference gas (IPCC 2001). Direct radiative effects occur when the gas itself is a greenhouse gas. Indirect radiative forcing occurs when chemical transformations involving the original gas produces a gas or gases that are greenhouse gases, or when a gas influences other radiatively important processes such as the atmospheric lifetimes of other gases. The reference gas used is CO<sub>2</sub>, and therefore GWP weighted emissions are measured in teragrams of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalents (Tg CO<sub>2</sub> Eq.).<sup>19</sup> The relationship between gigagrams (Gg) of a gas and Tg CO<sub>2</sub> Eq. can be expressed as follows:

$$\text{Tg CO}_2 \text{ Eq} = (\text{Gg of gas}) \times (\text{GWP}) \times \left( \frac{\text{Tg}}{1,000 \text{ Gg}} \right)$$

where,

Tg CO<sub>2</sub> Eq. = Teragrams of Carbon Dioxide Equivalents

Gg = Gigagrams (equivalent to a thousand metric tons)

GWP = Global Warming Potential

Tg = Teragrams

GWP values allow policy makers to compare the impacts of emissions and reductions of different gases. According to the IPCC, GWPs typically have an uncertainty of 35 percent. The parties to the UNFCCC have also agreed to use GWPs based upon a 100 year time horizon although other time horizon values are available.

*In addition to communicating emissions in units of mass, Parties may choose also to use global warming potentials (GWPs) to reflect their inventories and projections in carbon dioxide-equivalent terms, using information provided by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in its Second Assessment Report. Any use*

<sup>18</sup> Volcanic activity can inject significant quantities of aerosol producing sulfur dioxide and other sulfur compounds into the stratosphere, which can result in a longer negative forcing effect (i.e., a few years) (IPCC 1996).

<sup>19</sup> Carbon comprises 12/44<sup>ths</sup> of carbon dioxide by weight.

## Box 1-1: The IPCC Third Assessment Report and Global Warming Potentials

The IPCC recently published its Third Assessment Report (TAR), providing the most current and comprehensive scientific assessment of climate change. Within this report, the GWPs of several gases were revised relative to the IPCC's Second Assessment Report (SAR), and new GWPs have been calculated for an expanded set of gases. Since the SAR, the IPCC has applied an improved calculation of CO<sub>2</sub> radiative forcing and an improved CO<sub>2</sub> response function (presented in WMO 1999). The GWPs are drawn from WMO (1999) and the SAR, with updates for those cases where significantly different new laboratory or radiative transfer results have been published. Additionally, the atmospheric lifetimes of some gases have been recalculated. Because the revised radiative forcing of CO<sub>2</sub> is about 12 percent lower than that in the SAR, the GWPs of the other gases relative to CO<sub>2</sub> tend to be larger, taking into account revisions in lifetimes. In addition, the values for radiative forcing and lifetimes have been calculated for a variety of halocarbons, which were not presented in the SAR. Table 1-3 presents the new GWPs, relative to those presented in the SAR.

Although the GWPs have been updated by the IPCC, estimates of emissions presented in this Inventory will continue to use the GWPs from the Second Assessment Report. The guidelines under which this Inventory is developed, the *Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories* (IPCC/UNEP/OECD/IEA 1997) and the UNFCCC reporting guidelines for national inventories<sup>20</sup> were developed prior to the publication of the TAR. Therefore, to comply with international reporting standards under the UNFCCC, official emission estimates are reported by the United States using SAR GWP values. For informational purposes, emission estimates that use the updated GWPs are presented in below and in even more detail in Annex Q. Overall, these revisions to GWP values do not have a significant effect on U.S. emission trends, as shown in Table 1-4.

Table 1-5 below shows a comparison of total emissions estimates by sector using both the IPCC SAR and TAR GWP values. For most sectors, the change in emissions was minimal. The effect on emissions from waste was by far the greatest (9.1 percent), due the predominance of CH<sub>4</sub> emissions in this sector. Emissions from all other sectors were comprised of mainly CO<sub>2</sub> or a mix of gases, which moderated the effect of the changes.

**Table 1-3: Comparison of 100 Year GWPs**

Gas	SAR	TAR	Change	
Carbon dioxide (CO <sub>2</sub> )	1	1	NC	NC
Methane (CH <sub>4</sub> )*	21	23	2	10%
Nitrous oxide (N <sub>2</sub> O)	310	296	(14)	(5%)
HFC-23	11,700	12,000	300	3%
HFC-32	650	550	(100)	(15%)
HFC-125	2,800	3,400	600	21%
HFC-134a	1,300	1,300	NC	NC
HFC-143a	3,800	4,300	500	13%
HFC-152a	140	120	(20)	(14%)
HFC-227ea	2,900	3,500	600	21%
HFC-236fa	6,300	9,400	3,100	49%
HFC-4310mee	1,300	1,500	200	15%
CF <sub>4</sub>	6,500	5,700	(800)	(12%)
C <sub>2</sub> F <sub>6</sub>	9,200	11,900	2,700	29%
C <sub>4</sub> F <sub>10</sub>	7,000	8,600	1,600	23%
C <sub>6</sub> F <sub>14</sub>	7,400	9,000	1,600	22%
SF <sub>6</sub>	23,900	22,200	(1,700)	(7%)

Source: (IPCC 2001)

NC (No Change)

\* The methane GWP includes the direct effects and those indirect effects due to the production of tropospheric ozone and stratospheric water vapor. The indirect effect due to the production of CO<sub>2</sub> is not included.

<sup>20</sup> See FCCC/CP/1999/7 at [www.unfccc.de](http://www.unfccc.de).



**Table 1-4: Effects on U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emission Trends Using IPCC SAR and TAR GWP Values (Tg CO<sub>2</sub> Eq.)  
Change from 1990 to 2000 Revisions to Annual Estimates**

Gas	Change from 1990 to 2000		Revisions to Annual Estimates	
	SAR	TAR	1990	2000
CO <sub>2</sub>	841.5	841.5	0	0
CH <sub>4</sub>	(36.8)	(40.3)	62.0	58.5
N <sub>2</sub> O	38.0	36.3	(17.5)	(19.2)
HFCs, PFCs, and SF <sub>6</sub>	27.7	34.0	(2.6)	3.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>870.5</b>	<b>871.6</b>	<b>42.0</b>	<b>43.1</b>
<b>Percent Change</b>	<b>14.2%</b>	<b>14.1%</b>	<b>0.7%</b>	<b>0.6%</b>

**Table 1-5: Comparison of Emissions by Sector using IPCC SAR and TAR GWP Values (Tg CO<sub>2</sub> Eq.)**

Sector	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
<b>Energy</b>							
SAR GWP (Used In Inventory)	5,141.9	5,452.4	5,629.9	5,697.9	5,709.5	5,793.9	5,962.6
TAR GWP	5,162.6	5,471.6	5,648.6	5,716.2	5,727.6	5,811.2	5,979.4
Difference (%)	0.4%	0.4%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%
<b>Industrial Processes</b>							
SAR GWP (Used In Inventory)	295.7	301.9	312.3	322.4	322.1	310.8	312.8
TAR GWP	291.8	299.6	310.8	321.7	323.1	312.6	315.5
Difference (%)	-1.3%	-0.8%	-0.5%	-0.2%	0.3%	0.6%	0.8%
<b>Agriculture</b>							
SAR GWP (Used In Inventory)	448.4	476.4	481.3	485.9	487.6	485.0	485.1
TAR GWP	451.3	479.6	483.6	487.9	489.7	487.1	487.1
Difference (%)	0.6%	0.7%	0.5%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%
<b>Land-Use Change and Forestry</b>							
SAR GWP (Used In Inventory)	(1,097.7)	(1,110.0)	(1,108.1)	(887.5)	(885.9)	(896.4)	(902.5)
TAR GWP	(1,097.7)	(1,110.0)	(1,108.1)	(887.5)	(885.9)	(896.4)	(902.5)
Difference (%)	NC	NC	NC	NC	NC	NC	NC
<b>Waste</b>							
SAR GWP (Used In Inventory)	244.7	251.1	246.3	241.9	236.9	239.8	240.6
TAR GWP	267.0	273.9	268.7	263.8	258.3	261.5	262.4
Difference (%)	9.1%	9.1%	9.1%	9.1%	9.0%	9.0%	9.0%
<b>Net Emissions (Sources and Sinks)</b>							
<b>SAR GWP (Used In Inventory)</b>	<b>5,033.0</b>	<b>5,371.8</b>	<b>5,561.7</b>	<b>5,860.5</b>	<b>5,870.3</b>	<b>5,933.1</b>	<b>6,098.7</b>
<b>TAR GWP</b>	<b>5,074.9</b>	<b>5,414.7</b>	<b>5,603.6</b>	<b>5,902.1</b>	<b>5,912.9</b>	<b>5,975.9</b>	<b>6,141.8</b>
<b>Difference (%)</b>	<b>0.8%</b>	<b>0.8%</b>	<b>0.7%</b>	<b>0.7%</b>	<b>0.7%</b>	<b>0.7%</b>	<b>0.7%</b>

NC (No change)

Note: Totals may not sum due to independent rounding.

*of GWPs should be based on the effects of the greenhouse gases over a 100-year time horizon. In addition, Parties may also use other time horizons.*<sup>21</sup>

Greenhouse gases with relatively long atmospheric lifetimes (e.g., CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>O, HFCs, PFCs, and SF<sub>6</sub>) tend to be evenly distributed throughout the atmosphere, and

consequently global average concentrations can be determined. The short-lived gases such as water vapor, carbon monoxide, tropospheric ozone, ozone precursors (e.g., NO<sub>x</sub>, and NMVOCs), and tropospheric aerosols (e.g., SO<sub>2</sub> products and carbonaceous particles), however, vary regionally, and consequently it is difficult to quantify their

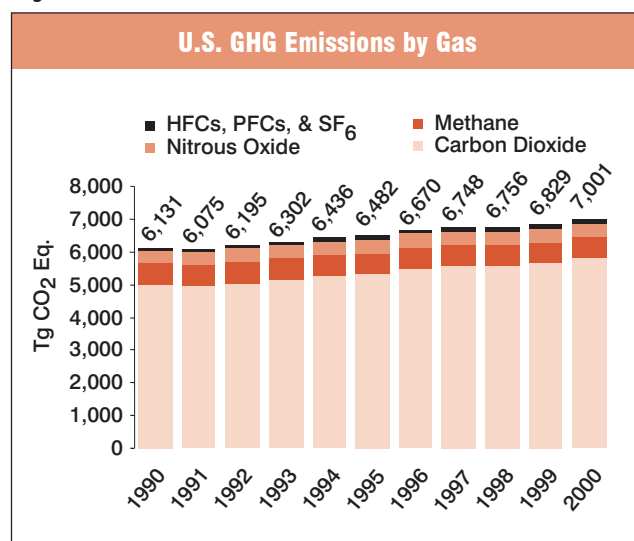
<sup>21</sup> Framework Convention on Climate Change; FCCC/CP/1996/15/Add.1; 29 October 1996; Report of the Conference of the Parties at its second session; held at Geneva from 8 to 19 July 1996; Addendum; Part Two: Action taken by the Conference of the Parties at its second session; Decision 9/CP.2; Communications from Parties included in Annex I to the Convention: guidelines, schedule and process for consideration; Annex: Revised Guidelines for the Preparation of National Communications by Parties Included in Annex I to the Convention; p. 18. FCCC (1996)

global radiative forcing impacts. No GWP values are attributed to these gases that are short-lived and spatially inhomogeneous in the atmosphere.

## Recent Trends in U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions

In 2000, total U.S. greenhouse gas emissions rose to 7,001.2 teragrams of carbon dioxide equivalents (Tg CO<sub>2</sub> Eq.)<sup>22</sup> (14.2 percent above 1990 emissions). The single year increase in emissions from 1999 to 2000 was 2.5 percent (171.7 Tg CO<sub>2</sub> Eq.), which was greater than the average annual rate of increase for 1990 through 2000 (1.3 percent). The higher than average increase in emissions in 2000 was, in part, attributable to the following factors: 1) robust economic growth in 2000, leading to increased demand for electricity and transportation fuels, 2) cooler winter conditions compared to the previous two years, and 3) decreased output from hydroelectric dams. (See following section for an analysis of emission trends by general economic sectors). Figure 1-1 through Figure 1-3 illustrate the overall trends in total U.S. emissions by gas, annual changes, and absolute changes since 1990.

Figure 1-1



As the largest source of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions, CO<sub>2</sub> from fossil fuel combustion accounted for a nearly constant 79 percent of global warming potential (GWP) weighted emissions in the 1990s.<sup>23</sup> Emissions from this source category grew by 18 percent (843.4 Tg CO<sub>2</sub> Eq.) from 1990 to 2000 and were responsible for most of the increase in national emissions during this period. The annual increase in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel combustion was 3.2 percent in 2000, double the source's average annual rate of 1.6 percent from 1990 through 2000. Historically, changes in emissions from fossil fuel combustion have been the dominant factor affecting U.S. emission trends.

Changes in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel combustion are influenced by many long-term and short-term factors, including population and economic growth, energy price fluctuations, technological changes, and seasonal temperatures. On an annual basis, the overall consumption of fossil fuels in the United States and other countries generally fluctuates in response to changes in general economic conditions, energy prices, weather, and the availability of non-fossil alternatives. For example, a year with increased consumption of goods and services, low fuel prices, severe summer and winter weather conditions, nuclear plant closures, and lower precipitation feeding hydroelectric dams would be expected to have proportionally greater fossil fuel consumption than a year with poor economic performance, high fuel prices, mild temperatures, and increased output from nuclear and hydroelectric plants.

Longer-term changes in energy consumption patterns, however, tend to be more a function of changes that affect the scale of consumption (e.g., population, number of cars, and size of houses), the efficiency with which energy is used in equipment (e.g., cars, power plants, steel mills, and light bulbs) and consumer behavior (e.g., walking, bicycling, or telecommuting to work instead of driving).

Energy-related CO<sub>2</sub> emissions are also a function of the type fuel or energy consumed and its carbon intensity. Producing heat or electricity using natural gas instead of coal, for example, can reduce the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions associated

<sup>22</sup> Estimates are presented in units of teragrams of carbon dioxide equivalents (Tg CO<sub>2</sub> Eq.), which weight each gas by its Global Warming Potential, or GWP, value. (See section on Global Warming Potentials, Chapter 1.)

<sup>23</sup> If a full accounting of emissions from fossil fuel combustion is made by including emissions from the combustion of international bunker fuels and CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O emissions associated with fuel combustion, then this percentage increases to a nearly constant 80 percent during the 1990s.

Figure 1-2

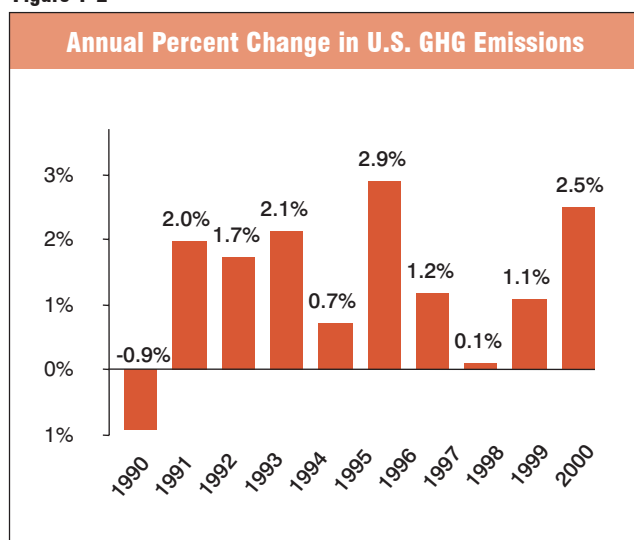
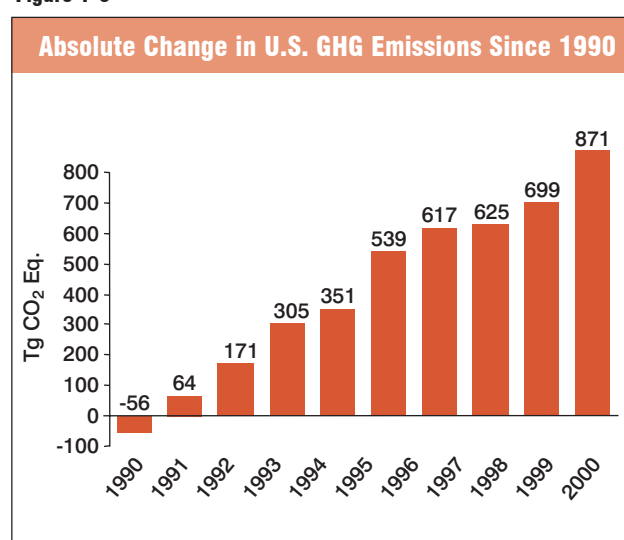


Figure 1-3



with energy consumption because of the lower carbon content of natural gas per unit of useful energy produced. Table 1-6 shows annual changes in emissions during the last few years of the 1990s for selected fuel types and sectors.

Carbon dioxide emissions from fossil fuel combustion grew rapidly in 1996, due primarily to two factors: 1) fuel switching by electric utilities from natural gas to more carbon intensive coal as colder winter conditions and the associated rise in demand for natural gas from residential and commercial customers for heating caused gas prices to rise sharply; and 2) higher consumption of petroleum fuels for transportation. Milder weather conditions in summer and winter moderated the growth in emissions in 1997; however, the shut-down of several nuclear power plants lead electric utilities to increase their consumption of coal and other fuels to offset the lost nuclear capacity.

In 1998, weather conditions were again a dominant factor in slowing the growth in emissions. Warm winter temperatures resulted in a significant drop in residential and commercial natural gas consumption. This drop in emissions from natural gas used for heating was primarily offset by two factors: 1) electric utility emissions, which increased in part due to a hot summer and its associated air conditioning demand; and 2) increased motor gasoline consumption for transportation.

In 1999, the increase in emissions from fossil fuel combustion was driven largely by growth in petroleum consumption for transportation. In addition, residential and commercial heating fuel demand partially recovered as winter temperatures dropped relative to 1998, although temperatures were still warmer than normal. These

**Table 1-6: Annual Change in CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions from Fossil Fuel Combustion for Selected Fuels and Sectors (Tg CO<sub>2</sub> Eq. and Percent)**

Sector	Fuel Type	1995 to 1996		1996 to 1997		1997 to 1998		1998 to 1999		1999 to 2000	
Electricity Generation	Coal	91.2	5.5%	49.9	2.9%	28.0	1.6%	11.1	0.6%	87.3	4.8%
Electricity Generation	Natural Gas	(24.3)	-8.8%	17.9	7.1%	32.4	12.0%	7.5	2.5%	31.5	10.2%
Electricity Generation	Petroleum	5.0	7.8%	8.9	12.9%	28.1	35.8%	1.2	1.2%	(12.5)	-11.6%
Transportation <sup>a</sup>	Petroleum	38.7	2.5%	7.6	0.5%	32.7	2.1%	68.0	4.2%	59.6	3.5%
Residential	Natural Gas	21.4	8.1%	(14.0)	-4.9%	(24.0)	-8.9%	10.0	4.0%	11.8	4.6%
Commercial	Natural Gas	7.0	4.3%	3.1	1.8%	(11.1)	-6.4%	1.7	1.0%	15.6	9.4%
Industrial	Coal	(5.7)	-4.4%	1.4	1.1%	(5.6)	-4.4%	(4.4)	-3.6%	(14.1)	-12.1%
Industrial	Natural Gas	16.3	4.1%	(5.2)	-1.3%	(31.6)	-7.7%	(5.0)	-1.3%	(1.6)	-0.4%
<b>All Sectors<sup>b</sup></b>	<b>All Fuels<sup>b</sup></b>	<b>181.6</b>	<b>3.6%</b>	<b>72.9</b>	<b>1.4%</b>	<b>16.6</b>	<b>0.3%</b>	<b>92.4</b>	<b>1.7%</b>	<b>174.7</b>	<b>3.2%</b>

<sup>a</sup> Excludes emissions from International Bunker Fuels.

<sup>b</sup> Includes fuels and sectors not shown in table.

increases were offset, in part, by a decline in emissions from electric power producers due primarily to: 1) an increase in net generation of electricity by nuclear plants to record levels, which reduced demand from fossil fuel plants; and 2) moderated summer temperatures compared to the previous year—thereby reducing electricity demand for air conditioning.

Emissions from fuel combustion increased considerably in 2000, due to several factors. The primary reason for the increase was the robust U.S. economy, which produced a high demand for fuels—especially for petroleum in the transportation sector—despite increases in the price of both natural gas and petroleum. Colder winter conditions relative to the previous year triggered a rise in residential and commercial demand for heating. Structural and other economic changes taking place within U.S. industry especially manufacturing lead to lower coal consumption. Additionally, electricity generation became more carbon intensive as coal and natural gas consumption offset reduced hydropower output. In sum, emissions from fossil fuel combustion exhibited the second highest annual increase since 1990.

Other significant trends in emissions from additional source categories over the eleven year period from 1990 through 2000 included the following:

- Aggregate HFC and PFC emissions resulting from the substitution of ozone depleting substances (e.g., CFCs) increased by 56.8 Tg CO<sub>2</sub> Eq. This increase was significantly offset, however, by reductions in PFC emissions from aluminum production (10.2 Tg CO<sub>2</sub> Eq. or 56 percent), reductions in emissions of HFC-23 from the production of HCFC-22 (5.2 Tg CO<sub>2</sub> Eq. or 15 percent), and reductions of SF<sub>6</sub> from electric power transmission and distribution systems (16.8 Tg CO<sub>2</sub> Eq. or 54 percent). Reductions in PFC emissions from aluminum production were the result of both industry emission reduction efforts and lower domestic aluminum production. HFC-23 emissions from the production of HCFC-22 decreased due to a reduction in the intensity of emissions from that source, despite increased HCFC-22 production. Reduced emissions of SF<sub>6</sub> from electric power transmission and distribution systems are primarily the result of higher purchase prices for SF<sub>6</sub> and efforts by industry to reduce emissions.

- Methane emissions from coal mining dropped by 26.2 Tg CO<sub>2</sub> Eq. (30 percent) as a result of the mining of less gassy coal from underground mines and the increased use of methane from degasification systems.
- Nitrous oxide emissions from agricultural soil management increased by 30.5 Tg CO<sub>2</sub> Eq. (11 percent) as fertilizer consumption and cultivation of nitrogen fixing crops rose.
- By 1998, all of the three major adipic acid producing plants had voluntarily implemented N<sub>2</sub>O abatement technology, and as a result, emissions fell by 6.8 Tg CO<sub>2</sub> Eq. (46 percent). The majority of this decline occurred from 1997 to 1998, despite increased production.
- Carbon dioxide emissions from feedstock uses of coal coke for iron and steel production decreased by 19.7 Tg CO<sub>2</sub> Eq. (23 percent), as imports of steel have increased.
- Methane emissions from U.S. landfills decreased 5 percent, as the amount of landfill gas collected and combusted by landfill operators has increased.
- Emissions of N<sub>2</sub>O from mobile combustion rose by 7.4 Tg CO<sub>2</sub> Eq. (14 percent), primarily due to an increased average N<sub>2</sub>O generation rate for the U.S. highway vehicle fleet.

Overall, from 1990 to 2000, total emissions of CO<sub>2</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O increased by 841.5 (17 percent) and 38.0 Tg CO<sub>2</sub> Eq. (10 percent), respectively, while CH<sub>4</sub> emissions decreased by 36.8 Tg CO<sub>2</sub> Eq. (6 percent). During the same period, aggregate weighted emissions of HFCs, PFCs, and SF<sub>6</sub> rose by 27.7 Tg CO<sub>2</sub> Eq. (30 percent). Despite being emitted in smaller quantities relative to the other principal greenhouse gases, emissions of HFCs, PFCs, and SF<sub>6</sub> are significant because many of them have extremely high global warming potentials and, in the cases of PFCs and SF<sub>6</sub>, long atmospheric lifetimes. Conversely, U.S. greenhouse gas emissions were partly offset by carbon sequestration in forests, agricultural soils, and in landfilled carbon, which were estimated to be 13 percent of total emissions in 2000.

As an alternative, emissions can be aggregated across gases by the IPCC defined sectors, referred to here as chapters. Over the ten year period of 1990 to 2000, total emissions in the Energy, Industrial Processes, and Agriculture chapters climbed by 817.8 (16 percent), 17.1

## Box 1-2: Recent Trends in Various U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions-Related Data

There are several ways to assess a nation's greenhouse gas emitting intensity. The basis for measures of intensity can be 1) per unit of aggregate energy consumption, because energy-related activities are the largest sources of emissions; 2) per unit of fossil fuel consumption, because almost all energy-related emissions involve the combustion of fossil fuels; 3) per unit of electricity consumption, because the electric power industry—utilities and nonutilities combined—were the largest sources of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions in 2000; 4) per unit of total gross domestic product as a measure of national economic activity; or 5) on a per capita basis. Depending upon the measure used, the United States could appear to have reduced or increased its national greenhouse gas intensity during the 1990s.

Table 1-7 provides data on various statistics related to U.S. greenhouse gas emissions normalized to 1990 as a baseline year. Greenhouse gas emissions in the U.S. have grown at an average annual rate of 1.3 percent since 1990. This rate is slightly slower than that for total energy or fossil fuel consumption thereby indicating an improved or lower greenhouse gas emitting intensity and much slower than that for either electricity consumption or overall gross domestic product. At the same time, total U.S. greenhouse gas emissions have grown at about the same rate as national population during the last decade (see Figure 1-4). Overall, atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations a function of many complex anthropogenic and natural processes are increasing at 0.4 percent per year.

**Table 1-7: Recent Trends in Various U.S. Data (Index 1990 = 100)**

Variable	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	Growth Rate <sup>f</sup>
GHG Emissions <sup>a</sup>	99	101	103	105	106	109	110	110	111	114	1.3%
Energy Consumption <sup>b</sup>	100	101	104	106	108	111	112	112	115	117	1.6%
Fossil Fuel Consumption <sup>b</sup>	99	101	103	106	107	110	112	112	114	116	1.5%
Electricity Consumption <sup>b</sup>	102	102	105	108	111	114	116	120	122	125	2.3%
GDP <sup>c</sup>	100	103	105	110	112	116	122	127	132	138	3.2%
Population <sup>d</sup>	101	103	104	105	107	108	109	110	112	113	1.2%
Atmospheric CO <sub>2</sub> Concentration <sup>e</sup>	100	101	101	101	102	102	103	104	104	104	0.4%

<sup>a</sup> GWP weighted values

<sup>b</sup> Energy content weighted values (EIA 2001)

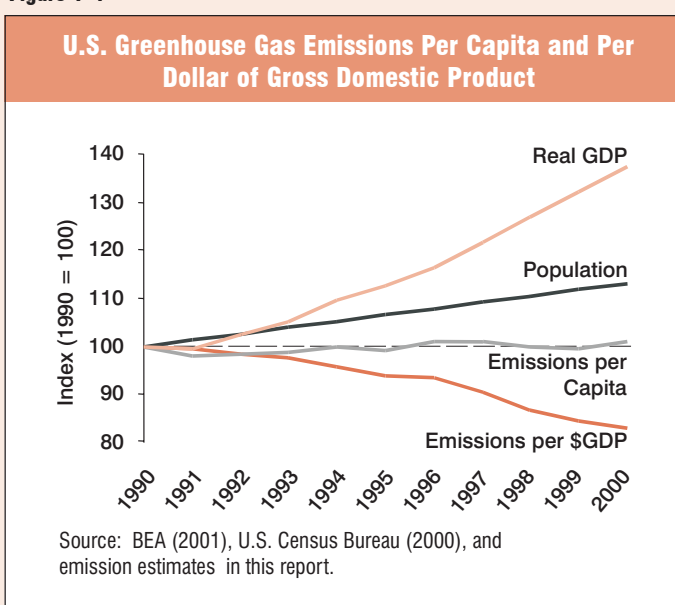
<sup>c</sup> Gross Domestic Product in chained 1996 dollars (BEA 2000)

<sup>d</sup> (U.S. Census Bureau 2000)

<sup>e</sup> Mauna Loa Observatory, Hawaii (Keeling and Whorf 2000)

<sup>f</sup> Average annual growth rate

**Figure 1-4**





**Table 1-8: Recent Trends in U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks (Tg CO<sub>2</sub> Eq.)**

Gas/Source	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
<b>CO<sub>2</sub></b>	<b>4,998.5</b>	<b>5,305.9</b>	<b>5,483.7</b>	<b>5,568.0</b>	<b>5,575.1</b>	<b>5,665.5</b>	<b>5,840.0</b>
Fossil Fuel Combustion	4,779.8	5,085.0	5,266.6	5,339.6	5,356.2	5,448.6	5,623.3
Iron and Steel Production	85.4	74.4	68.3	76.1	67.4	64.4	65.7
Cement Manufacture	33.3	36.8	37.1	38.3	39.2	40.0	41.1
Indirect CO <sub>2</sub> from CH <sub>4</sub> Oxidation	30.9	29.5	28.9	28.4	28.2	27.0	26.3
Waste Combustion	14.1	18.6	19.6	21.3	20.3	21.8	22.5
Ammonia Manufacture	18.5	18.9	19.5	19.5	20.1	18.9	18.0
Lime Manufacture	11.2	12.8	13.5	13.7	13.9	13.5	13.3
Limestone and Dolomite Use	5.2	7.0	7.4	8.4	8.2	9.1	9.2
Natural Gas Flaring	5.5	8.7	8.2	7.6	6.3	6.7	6.1
Aluminum Production	6.3	5.3	5.6	5.6	5.8	5.9	5.4
Soda Ash Manufacture and Consumption	4.1	4.3	4.2	4.4	4.3	4.2	4.2
Titanium Dioxide Production	1.3	1.7	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.9	2.0
Ferroalloys	2.0	1.9	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.7
Carbon Dioxide Consumption	0.8	1.0	1.1	1.3	1.4	1.6	1.4
Land-Use Change & Forestry (Sink) <sup>a</sup>	(1,097.7)	(1,110.0)	(1,108.1)	(887.5)	(885.9)	(896.4)	(902.5)
International Bunker Fuels <sup>b</sup>	113.9	101.0	102.3	109.9	112.9	105.3	100.2
<b>CH<sub>4</sub></b>	<b>651.3</b>	<b>657.6</b>	<b>643.7</b>	<b>633.3</b>	<b>627.1</b>	<b>620.5</b>	<b>614.5</b>
Landfills	213.4	216.6	211.5	206.4	201.0	203.1	203.5
Enteric Fermentation	127.9	133.2	129.6	126.8	124.9	124.5	123.9
Natural Gas Systems	121.2	125.7	126.6	122.7	122.2	118.6	116.4
Coal Mining	87.1	73.5	68.4	68.1	67.9	63.7	61.0
Manure Management	29.2	34.8	34.2	35.8	38.0	37.6	37.5
Wastewater Treatment	24.3	26.8	27.0	27.5	27.8	28.3	28.7
Petroleum Systems	26.4	24.2	24.0	24.0	23.4	22.3	21.9
Stationary Sources	7.9	8.2	8.4	7.5	7.0	7.3	7.5
Rice Cultivation	7.1	7.6	7.0	7.5	7.9	8.3	7.5
Mobile Sources	4.9	4.8	4.7	4.6	4.5	4.4	4.4
Petrochemical Production	1.2	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.7
Agricultural Residue Burning	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8
Silicon Carbide Production	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
International Bunker Fuels <sup>b</sup>	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
<b>N<sub>2</sub>O</b>	<b>387.3</b>	<b>419.8</b>	<b>430.5</b>	<b>429.8</b>	<b>426.3</b>	<b>423.5</b>	<b>425.3</b>
Agricultural Soil Management	267.1	283.4	292.6	297.5	298.4	296.3	297.6
Mobile Sources	50.9	60.4	60.1	59.7	59.1	58.7	58.3
Nitric Acid	17.8	19.9	20.7	21.2	20.9	20.1	19.8
Manure Management	16.0	16.4	16.8	17.1	17.1	17.1	17.5
Stationary Sources	12.8	13.5	14.1	14.2	14.3	14.6	14.9
Human Sewage	7.0	7.7	7.8	7.9	8.1	8.4	8.5
Adipic Acid	14.9	17.9	17.8	11.5	7.7	7.7	8.1
Agricultural Residue Burning	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.5
Waste Combustion	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2
International Bunker Fuels <sup>b</sup>	1.0	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.9
<b>HFCs, PFCs, and SF<sub>6</sub></b>	<b>93.6</b>	<b>98.5</b>	<b>111.9</b>	<b>116.9</b>	<b>127.7</b>	<b>120.0</b>	<b>121.3</b>
Substitution of Ozone Depleting Substances	0.9	21.8	30.6	38.0	44.9	51.3	57.8
HCFC-22 Production	35.0	27.0	31.1	30.0	40.2	30.4	29.8
Electrical Transmission and Distribution	31.2	26.5	26.8	24.5	20.1	15.5	14.4
Aluminum Production	18.1	11.8	12.5	11.0	9.0	8.9	7.9
Semiconductor Manufacture	2.9	5.9	5.4	6.5	7.3	7.7	7.4
Magnesium Production and Processing	5.5	5.5	5.5	6.9	6.2	6.1	4.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,130.7</b>	<b>6,481.8</b>	<b>6,669.8</b>	<b>6,748.1</b>	<b>6,756.2</b>	<b>6,829.5</b>	<b>7,001.2</b>
<b>Net Emissions (Sources and Sinks)</b>	<b>5,033.0</b>	<b>5,371.8</b>	<b>5,561.7</b>	<b>5,860.5</b>	<b>5,870.3</b>	<b>5,933.1</b>	<b>6,098.7</b>

+ Does not exceed 0.05 Tg CO<sub>2</sub> Eq.

<sup>a</sup> Sinks are only included in net emissions total, and are based partially on projected activity data. Parentheses indicate negative values (or sequestration).

<sup>b</sup> Emissions from International Bunker Fuels are not included in totals.

Note: Totals may not sum due to independent rounding.

**Table 1-9: Recent Trends in U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks (Gg)**

Gas/Source	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
<b>CO<sub>2</sub></b>	<b>4,998,515</b>	<b>5,305,895</b>	<b>5,483,670</b>	<b>5,567,981</b>	<b>5,575,083</b>	<b>5,665,472</b>	<b>5,840,039</b>
Fossil Fuel Combustion	4,779,847	5,085,044	5,266,619	5,339,562	5,356,161	5,448,589	5,623,268
Iron and Steel Production	85,414	74,357	68,324	76,127	67,429	64,376	65,709
Cement Manufacture	33,278	36,847	37,079	38,323	39,218	39,991	41,067
Indirect CO <sub>2</sub> from CH <sub>4</sub> Oxidation	30,899	29,458	28,891	28,354	28,183	27,004	26,302
Waste Combustion	14,091	18,608	19,569	21,344	20,251	21,843	22,470
Ammonia Manufacture	18,510	18,946	19,512	19,477	20,113	18,874	18,017
Lime Manufacture	11,238	12,804	13,495	13,685	13,914	13,466	13,316
Limestone and Dolomite Use	5,181	7,028	7,379	8,401	8,187	9,115	9,196
Natural Gas Flaring	5,514	8,729	8,233	7,565	6,250	6,679	6,059
Aluminum Production	6,315	5,265	5,580	5,621	5,792	5,895	5,410
Soda Ash Manufacture & Consumption	4,142	4,305	4,239	4,355	4,325	4,217	4,181
Titanium Dioxide Production	1,308	1,670	1,657	1,836	1,819	1,853	1,963
Ferroalloys	1,980	1,866	1,954	2,038	2,027	1,996	1,719
Carbon Dioxide Consumption	800	968	1,140	1,294	1,413	1,572	1,361
Land-Use Change and Forestry (Sink) <sup>a</sup>	(1,097,747)	(1,110,016)	(1,108,066)	(887,531)	(885,883)	(896,392)	(902,495)
International Bunker Fuels <sup>b</sup>	113,863	101,037	102,272	109,885	112,913	105,341	100,228
<b>CH<sub>4</sub></b>	<b>31,014</b>	<b>31,134</b>	<b>30,654</b>	<b>30,159</b>	<b>29,863</b>	<b>29,548</b>	<b>29,262</b>
Landfills	10,162	10,315	10,072	9,827	9,571	9,671	9,690
Enteric Fermentation	6,089	6,342	6,171	6,037	5,948	5,929	5,898
Natural Gas Systems	5,772	5,984	6,030	5,845	5,820	5,646	5,541
Coal Mining	4,149	3,502	3,255	3,244	3,235	3,033	2,903
Manure Management	1,390	1,657	1,628	1,707	1,811	1,788	1,784
Wastewater Treatment	1,155	1,275	1,287	1,311	1,326	1,350	1,367
Petroleum Systems	1,258	1,154	1,145	1,144	1,114	1,061	1,041
Stationary Sources	376	392	400	356	334	350	357
Rice Cultivation	339	363	332	356	376	395	357
Mobile Sources	233	228	222	217	212	209	208
Petrochemical Production	56	72	75	77	78	79	79
Agricultural Residue Burning	33	31	36	36	37	36	37
Silicon Carbide Production	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
International Bunker Fuels <sup>b</sup>	8	6	6	7	7	6	6
<b>N<sub>2</sub>O</b>	<b>1,249</b>	<b>1,354</b>	<b>1,389</b>	<b>1,387</b>	<b>1,375</b>	<b>1,366</b>	<b>1,372</b>
Agricultural Soil Management	862	914	944	960	963	956	960
Mobile Sources	164	195	194	192	191	189	188
Nitric Acid	58	64	67	68	67	65	64
Manure Management	52	53	54	55	55	55	57
Stationary Source	41	43	45	46	46	47	48
Human Sewage	23	25	25	26	26	27	27
Adipic Acid	48	58	57	37	25	25	26
Agricultural Residue Burning	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Waste Combustion	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
International Bunker Fuels <sup>b</sup>	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
<b>HFCs, PFCs, and SF<sub>6</sub></b>	<b>M</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>M</b>
Substitution of Ozone Depleting Substances	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
HCFC-22 Production <sup>c</sup>	3	2	3	3	3	3	3
Electrical Transmission and Distribution <sup>d</sup>	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Aluminum Production	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
Semiconductor Manufacture	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
Magnesium Production and Processing <sup>d</sup>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
<b>NO<sub>x</sub></b>	<b>21,955</b>	<b>24,214</b>	<b>25,075</b>	<b>25,584</b>	<b>25,546</b>	<b>25,300</b>	<b>25,116</b>
<b>CO</b>	<b>85,994</b>	<b>80,798</b>	<b>90,319</b>	<b>90,778</b>	<b>86,593</b>	<b>89,568</b>	<b>97,300</b>
<b>NMVOCs</b>	<b>18,851</b>	<b>18,671</b>	<b>17,763</b>	<b>18,118</b>	<b>17,150</b>	<b>17,323</b>	<b>18,267</b>

+ Does not exceed 0.5 Gg.

M Mixture of multiple gases

<sup>a</sup> Sinks are not included in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions total, and are based partially on projected activity data.

<sup>b</sup> Emissions from International Bunker Fuels are not included in totals.

<sup>c</sup> HFC-23 emitted

<sup>d</sup> SF<sub>6</sub> emitted

Note: Totals may not sum due to independent rounding.

**Table 1-10: Recent Trends in U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks by Chapter/IPCC Sector (Tg CO<sub>2</sub> Eq.)**

Chapter/IPCC Sector	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Energy	5,141.9	5,452.4	5,629.9	5,697.9	5,709.5	5,793.9	5,962.6
Industrial Processes	295.7	301.9	312.3	322.4	322.1	310.8	312.8
Agriculture	448.4	476.4	481.3	485.9	487.6	485.0	485.1
Land-Use Change and Forestry (Sink)*	(1,097.7)	(1,110.0)	(1,108.1)	(887.5)	(885.9)	(896.4)	(902.5)
Waste	244.7	251.1	246.3	241.9	236.9	239.8	240.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,130.7</b>	<b>6,481.8</b>	<b>6,669.8</b>	<b>6,748.1</b>	<b>6,756.2</b>	<b>6,829.5</b>	<b>7,001.2</b>
<b>Net Emissions (Sources and Sinks)</b>	<b>5,033.0</b>	<b>5,371.8</b>	<b>5,561.7</b>	<b>5,860.5</b>	<b>5,870.3</b>	<b>5,933.1</b>	<b>6,098.7</b>

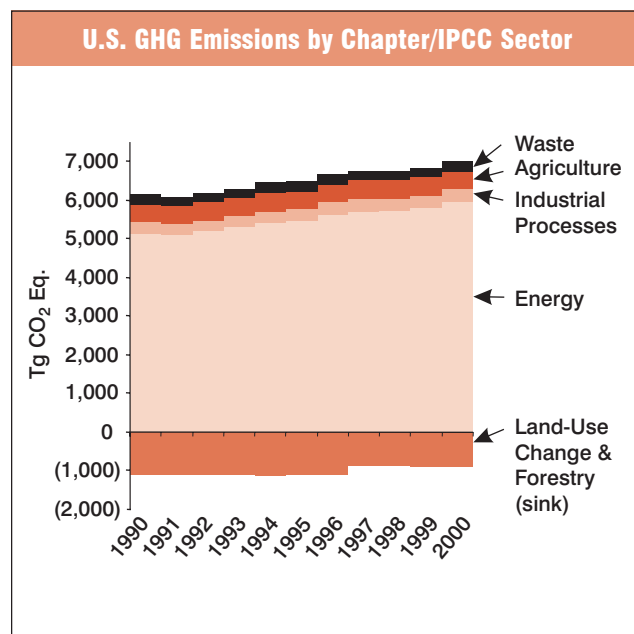
\* Sinks are only included in net emissions total, and are based partially on projected activity data.

Note: Totals may not sum due to independent rounding.

Note: Parentheses indicate negative values (or sequestration).

(6 percent), and 35.7 Tg CO<sub>2</sub> Eq. (8 percent), respectively, while the Waste chapter decreased 4.1 Tg CO<sub>2</sub> Eq. (2 percent). Estimates of net carbon sequestration in the Land-Use Change and Forestry chapter declined by 195.2 Tg CO<sub>2</sub> Eq. (18 percent).

Table 1-8 summarizes emissions and sinks from all U.S. anthropogenic sources in weighted units of Tg CO<sub>2</sub> Eq., while unweighted gas emissions and sinks in gigagrams (Gg) are provided in Table 1-9. Alternatively, emissions and sinks are aggregated by chapter in Table 1-10 and Figure 1-5.

**Figure 1-5**

## Emissions by Economic Sectors

Throughout this report, emission estimates are grouped into six sectors (i.e., chapters) defined by the IPCC: Energy, Industrial Processes, Solvent Use, Agriculture, Land-Use Change and Forestry, and Waste. While it is important to use this characterization for methodological reasons, it is also useful to allocate emissions into sectoral categories that are more intuitive. This section reports emissions by the following “economic sectors”: Residential, Commercial, Industry, Transportation, Electricity Generation, and Agriculture, and U.S. Territories. Using this categorization scheme, emissions from electricity generation accounted for the largest portion (34 percent) of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions. The transportation activities, in aggregate, accounted for the second largest portion (27 percent). Additional discussion and data on these two economic sectors is provided below.

Emissions from industry accounted for 19 percent of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions in 2000. In contrast to electricity generation and transportation, emissions from industry have declined over the past decade, as structural changes have occurred in the U.S. economy (i.e., shifts from a manufacturing base to a service-based economy), fuel switching has occurred, and efficiency improvements have been made. The remaining 20 percent of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions were contributed by the residential, agriculture, commercial economic sectors, and U.S. territories. Residences accounted for about 8 percent, and primarily consisted of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions from

fossil fuel combustion. Activities related to agriculture also accounted for roughly 8 percent of U.S. emissions, but unlike all other economic sectors these emissions were dominated by nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O) emissions from agricultural soils instead of CO<sub>2</sub> from fossil fuel combustion. The commercial sector accounted for about 5 percent of emissions, while U.S. territories accounted for less than 1 percent of total emissions.

Carbon dioxide was also emitted and sequestered by a variety of activities related to land-use change and forestry.

Table 1-11 presents a detailed breakdown of emissions from each of these economic sectors by source category, as they are defined in this report. Figure 1-6 shows the trend in emissions by sector from 1990 to 2000.

## Emissions with Electricity Distributed to Economic Sectors

It can also be useful to view greenhouse gas emissions from economic sectors with emissions related to electricity generation distributed into end-use categories (i.e., emissions from electricity generation are allocated to the economic sectors in which the electricity is consumed). To distribute electricity emissions among end-use sectors, emissions from the source categories assigned to the electricity generation sector were allocated to the residential, commercial, industry, transportation, and agriculture economic sectors according to retail sales of electricity (EIA 2001 and Duffield 2002). These three source categories include CO<sub>2</sub> from fossil fuel combustion, CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O from stationary sources, and SF<sub>6</sub> from electrical transmission and distribution.<sup>24</sup>

When emissions from electricity are distributed among these sectors, industry accounts for the largest share of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions (29 percent). Emissions from the residential and commercial sectors also increase substantially due to their relatively large share of electricity consumption. Transportation activities remain the second largest contributor to emissions. In all sectors except agriculture, CO<sub>2</sub> accounts for more than 75 percent of greenhouse gas emissions, primarily from the combustion of fossil fuels.

Figure 1-6

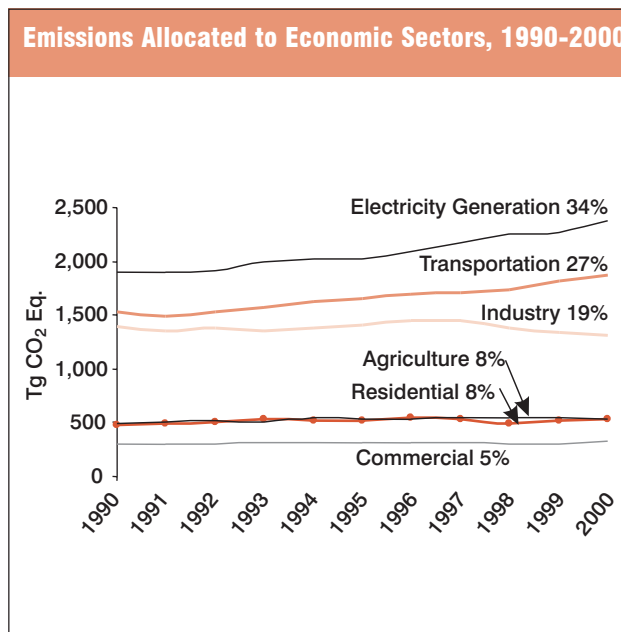


Table 1-12 presents a detailed breakdown of emissions from each of these economic sectors, with emissions from electricity generation distributed to them. Figure 1-7 shows the trend in these emissions by sector from 1990 to 2000.

## Electricity Generation

Activities related to the generation, transmission, and distribution of electricity in the United States accounted for 34 percent of total U.S. greenhouse gas emissions. Emissions from this economic sector increased by 25 percent since 1990, as electricity demand grew and fossil fuels remained the dominant energy source for generation. The electricity generation sector in the United States is composed of traditional electric utilities as well as other entities, such as power marketers and nonutility power producers. The majority of electricity generated by these entities was through the combustion of coal in boilers to produce high pressure steam that is passed through a turbine. Table 1-13 provides a detailed summary of emissions from electricity generation-related activities.

## Transportation

Transportation activities accounted 27 percent of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions. From 1990 to 2000, emissions from transportation rose by 23 percent due, in part, to increased

<sup>24</sup> Emissions were not distributed to U.S. territories, since the electricity generation sector only includes emissions related to the generation of electricity in the 50 states and the District of Columbia.

**Table 1-11: U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions Allocated to Economic Sectors (Tg CO<sub>2</sub> Eq. and Percent of Total in 2000)**

Sector/Source	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	Percent <sup>a</sup>
<b>Electricity Generation</b>	<b>1,898.2</b>	<b>2,024.3</b>	<b>2,096.9</b>	<b>2,171.6</b>	<b>2,256.1</b>	<b>2,271.2</b>	<b>2,376.9</b>	<b>33.9%</b>
CO <sub>2</sub> from Fossil Fuel Combustion	1,858.9	1,989.3	2,061.2	2,137.9	2,226.4	2,246.2	2,352.5	33.6%
Transmission & Distribution <sup>b</sup>	31.2	26.5	26.8	24.5	20.1	15.5	14.4	0.2%
Stationary Combustion <sup>c</sup>	8.1	8.5	8.9	9.2	9.5	9.5	10.0	0.1%
<b>Transportation</b>	<b>1,527.7</b>	<b>1,652.4</b>	<b>1,695.2</b>	<b>1,708.5</b>	<b>1,737.4</b>	<b>1,813.3</b>	<b>1,877.0</b>	<b>26.8%</b>
CO <sub>2</sub> from Fossil Fuel Combustion	1,471.8	1,579.4	1,618.7	1,628.8	1,655.0	1,728.2	1,789.5	25.6%
Mobile Combustion <sup>c</sup>	55.8	65.2	64.8	64.2	63.6	63.1	62.7	0.9%
Substitution of ODS <sup>d</sup>	+	7.9	11.8	15.4	18.9	22.0	24.8	0.4%
<b>Industry</b>	<b>1,393.9</b>	<b>1,400.9</b>	<b>1,447.6</b>	<b>1,442.7</b>	<b>1,385.9</b>	<b>1,341.1</b>	<b>1,314.6</b>	<b>18.8%</b>
CO <sub>2</sub> from Fossil Fuel Combustion	825.3	838.0	884.5	876.9	823.5	798.1	778.8	11.1%
Natural Gas Systems	121.2	125.7	126.6	122.7	122.2	118.6	116.4	1.7%
Iron & Steel Production	85.4	74.4	68.3	76.1	67.4	64.4	65.7	0.9%
Coal Mining	87.1	73.5	68.4	68.1	67.9	63.7	61.0	0.9%
Cement Manufacture	33.3	36.8	37.1	38.3	39.2	40.0	41.1	0.6%
HCFC-22 Production <sup>e</sup>	35.0	27.0	31.1	30.0	40.2	30.4	29.8	0.4%
Substitution of ODS <sup>d</sup>	+	11.1	15.5	18.3	20.9	23.5	26.3	0.4%
Indirect CO <sub>2</sub> from CH <sub>4</sub> Oxidation	30.9	29.5	28.9	28.4	28.2	27.0	26.3	0.4%
Petroleum Systems	26.4	24.2	24.0	24.0	23.4	22.3	21.9	0.3%
Nitric Acid	17.8	19.9	20.7	21.2	20.9	20.1	19.8	0.3%
Ammonia Manufacture	18.5	18.9	19.5	19.5	20.1	18.9	18.0	0.3%
Wastewater Treatment	12.0	13.7	13.8	14.2	14.3	14.6	14.8	0.2%
Landfills	14.9	15.2	14.8	14.4	14.1	14.2	14.2	0.2%
Aluminum Production <sup>f</sup>	24.4	17.1	18.0	16.6	14.8	14.8	13.4	0.2%
Lime Manufacture	11.2	12.8	13.5	13.7	13.9	13.5	13.3	0.2%
Limestone & Dolomite Use	5.2	7.0	7.4	8.4	8.2	9.1	9.2	0.1%
Adipic Acid	14.9	17.9	17.8	11.5	7.7	7.7	8.1	0.1%
Semiconductor Manufacture <sup>d</sup>	2.9	5.9	5.4	6.5	7.3	7.7	7.4	0.1%
Stationary Combustion <sup>c</sup>	5.9	6.3	6.5	6.7	6.6	6.8	6.7	0.1%
Natural Gas Flaring	5.5	8.7	8.2	7.6	6.3	6.7	6.1	0.1%
Soda Ash Manufacture & Consumption	4.1	4.3	4.2	4.4	4.3	4.2	4.2	0.1%
Magnesium Production & Processing <sup>b</sup>	5.5	5.5	5.5	6.9	6.2	6.1	4.0	0.1%
Titanium Dioxide Production	1.3	1.7	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.9	2.0	+
Ferroalloys	2.0	1.9	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.7	+
Petrochemical Production	1.2	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.7	+
Waste Combustion <sup>g</sup>	1.0	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.6	+
Carbon Dioxide Consumption	0.8	1.0	1.1	1.3	1.4	1.6	1.4	+
Silicon Carbide Production	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
<b>Agriculture</b>	<b>494.7</b>	<b>533.3</b>	<b>533.3</b>	<b>544.2</b>	<b>545.1</b>	<b>544.9</b>	<b>535.5</b>	<b>7.6%</b>
Agricultural Soil Management	267.1	283.4	292.6	297.5	298.4	296.3	297.6	4.3%
Enteric Fermentation	127.9	133.2	129.6	126.8	124.9	124.5	123.9	1.8%
Manure Management <sup>c</sup>	45.2	51.2	51.0	52.9	55.1	54.7	55.0	0.7%
CO <sub>2</sub> from Fossil Fuel Combustion	46.3	56.9	52.0	58.3	57.6	59.9	50.4	0.7%
Rice Cultivation	7.1	7.6	7.0	7.5	7.9	8.3	7.5	0.1%
Agricultural Residue Burning <sup>c</sup>	1.1	1.0	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	+
Mobile Combustion <sup>c</sup>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Stationary Combustion <sup>c</sup>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
<b>Residential</b>	<b>484.6</b>	<b>522.7</b>	<b>549.0</b>	<b>531.1</b>	<b>494.3</b>	<b>516.0</b>	<b>531.6</b>	<b>7.6%</b>
CO <sub>2</sub> from Fossil Fuel Combustion	332.1	362.3	390.4	374.9	341.8	360.5	374.8	5.4%
Landfills	119.5	121.3	118.4	115.6	112.6	113.7	113.9	1.6%
Wastewater Treatment	12.3	13.1	13.2	13.4	13.5	13.7	13.9	0.2%
Waste Combustion <sup>g</sup>	8.1	10.6	11.1	12.1	11.5	12.4	12.7	0.2%
Human Sewage	7.0	7.7	7.8	7.9	8.1	8.4	8.5	0.1%
Stationary Combustion <sup>c</sup>	5.7	5.8	5.9	4.7	4.2	4.5	4.7	0.1%
Substitution of ODS <sup>d</sup>	+	1.9	2.1	2.5	2.7	2.9	3.2	+



**Table 1-11: U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions Allocated to Economic Sectors (Tg CO<sub>2</sub> Eq. and Percent of Total in 2000) (Continued)**

Sector/Source	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	Percent <sup>a</sup>
<b>Commercial</b>	<b>303.5</b>	<b>313.0</b>	<b>320.8</b>	<b>320.9</b>	<b>302.9</b>	<b>307.1</b>	<b>327.6</b>	<b>4.7%</b>
CO <sub>2</sub> from Fossil Fuel Combustion	217.3	223.9	232.8	233.7	217.5	219.8	239.3	3.4%
Landfills	79.0	80.1	78.3	76.4	74.4	75.1	75.3	1.1%
Waste Combustion <sup>g</sup>	5.3	7.0	7.3	8.0	7.6	8.2	8.4	0.1%
Substitution of ODS <sup>d</sup>	0.9	0.9	1.3	1.8	2.4	2.9	3.5	+
Stationary Combustion <sup>c</sup>	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.1	1.1	+
<b>U.S. Territories</b>	<b>28.1</b>	<b>35.3</b>	<b>27.0</b>	<b>29.1</b>	<b>34.4</b>	<b>35.8</b>	<b>38.0</b>	<b>0.5%</b>
CO <sub>2</sub> from Fossil Fuel Combustion	28.1	35.3	27.0	29.1	34.4	35.8	38.0	0.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,130.7</b>	<b>6,481.8</b>	<b>6,669.8</b>	<b>6,748.1</b>	<b>6,756.2</b>	<b>6,829.5</b>	<b>7,001.2</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Sinks</b>	<b>(1,097.7)</b>	<b>(1,110.0)</b>	<b>(1,108.1)</b>	<b>(887.5)</b>	<b>(885.9)</b>	<b>(896.4)</b>	<b>(902.5)</b>	<b>100%</b>
Forests	(982.7)	(979.0)	(979.0)	(759.0)	(751.7)	(762.7)	(770.0)	85%
Agricultural Soils	(37.3)	(60.2)	(60.2)	(60.4)	(67.2)	(67.7)	(67.4)	7%
Urban Trees	(58.7)	(58.7)	(58.7)	(58.7)	(58.7)	(58.7)	(58.7)	7%
Landfilled Yard Trimmings	(19.1)	(12.2)	(10.2)	(9.5)	(8.3)	(7.3)	(6.4)	1%
<b>Net Emissions (Sources and Sinks)</b>	<b>5,033.0</b>	<b>5,371.8</b>	<b>5,561.7</b>	<b>5,860.5</b>	<b>5,870.3</b>	<b>5,933.1</b>	<b>6,098.7</b>	<b>-</b>

Note: Includes all emissions of CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>O, HFCs, PFCs, and SF<sub>6</sub>. Totals may not sum due to independent rounding.

ODS (Ozone Depleting Substances)

+ Does not exceed 0.05 Tg CO<sub>2</sub> Eq. or 0.05%.

- Not applicable.

<sup>a</sup> Percents for year 2000.

<sup>b</sup> SF<sub>6</sub> emitted.

<sup>c</sup> Includes both CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O.

<sup>d</sup> May include a mixture of HFCs, PFCs, and SF<sub>6</sub>.

<sup>e</sup> HFC-23 emitted.

<sup>f</sup> Includes both CO<sub>2</sub> and PFCs.

<sup>g</sup> Includes both CO<sub>2</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O.

demand for travel and the stagnation of fuel efficiency across the U.S. vehicle fleet. Since the 1970s, the number of highway vehicles registered in the United States has increased faster than the overall population, according to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). Likewise, the number of miles driven up—28 percent from 1990 to 2000—and gallons of gasoline consumed each year in the United States have increased steadily since the 1980s, according to the FHWA and Energy Information Administration, respectively. These increases in motor vehicle usage are the result of a confluence of factors including population growth, economic growth, urban sprawl, low fuel prices, and increasing popularity of sport utility vehicles and other light-duty trucks that tend to have lower fuel efficiency. A similar set of social and economic trends has led to a significant increase in air travel and freight transportation—by both air and road modes—during the 1990s.

Almost all of the energy consumed for transportation was supplied by petroleum-based products, with nearly two-thirds being related to gasoline consumption in automobiles and other highway vehicles. Other fuel uses, especially diesel fuel for freight trucks and jet fuel for aircraft, accounted for the remainder. These emissions were primarily CO<sub>2</sub> from fuel combustion, which increased by 22 percent from 1990 to 2000. However, because of larger increases in HFC emissions during this period, overall emissions from transportation activities actually increased by 23 percent. Table 1-14 provides a detailed summary of greenhouse gas emissions from transportation-related activities.

**Table 1-12: U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions by “Economic Sector” and Gas with Electricity-Related Emissions Distributed (Tg CO<sub>2</sub> Eq.) and Percent of Total in 2000**

Sector/Gas	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	Percent <sup>a</sup>
<b>Industry</b>	<b>2,029.7</b>	<b>2,071.6</b>	<b>2,136.2</b>	<b>2,151.5</b>	<b>2,104.0</b>	<b>2,059.7</b>	<b>2,054.7</b>	<b>29.3%</b>
Direct Emissions	1,393.9	1,400.9	1,447.6	1,442.7	1,385.9	1,341.1	1,314.6	18.8%
CO <sub>2</sub>	1,030.9	1,041.5	1,083.4	1,085.4	1,023.6	994.7	974.7	13.9%
CH <sub>4</sub>	265.0	256.1	251.6	247.5	245.9	237.5	232.3	3.3%
N <sub>2</sub> O	36.6	41.9	42.7	37.0	32.9	32.3	32.2	0.5%
HFCs, PFCs, and SF <sub>6</sub>	61.4	61.4	70.0	72.7	83.6	76.7	75.4	1.1%
Electricity-Related	635.8	670.7	688.6	708.8	718.1	718.6	740.0	10.6%
CO <sub>2</sub>	622.7	659.1	676.9	697.8	708.7	710.7	732.4	10.5%
CH <sub>4</sub>	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	+
N <sub>2</sub> O	2.5	2.6	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.9	+
SF <sub>6</sub>	10.5	8.8	8.8	8.0	6.4	4.9	4.5	0.1%
<b>Transportation</b>	<b>1,530.5</b>	<b>1,655.1</b>	<b>1,697.9</b>	<b>1,711.2</b>	<b>1,740.2</b>	<b>1,816.0</b>	<b>1,879.7</b>	<b>26.8%</b>
Direct Emissions	1,527.7	1,652.4	1,695.2	1,708.5	1,737.4	1,813.3	1,877.0	26.8%
CO <sub>2</sub>	1,471.8	1,579.4	1,618.7	1,628.8	1,655.0	1,728.2	1,789.5	25.6%
CH <sub>4</sub>	4.9	4.8	4.7	4.6	4.5	4.4	4.4	0.1%
N <sub>2</sub> O	50.9	60.4	60.1	59.7	59.1	58.7	58.3	0.8%
HFCs <sup>b</sup>	+	7.9	11.8	15.4	18.9	22.0	24.8	0.4%
Electricity-Related	2.8	2.6	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.8	+
CO <sub>2</sub>	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.7	+
CH <sub>4</sub>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
N <sub>2</sub> O	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
SF <sub>6</sub>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
<b>Residential</b>	<b>1,131.2</b>	<b>1,213.1</b>	<b>1,270.1</b>	<b>1,265.6</b>	<b>1,266.3</b>	<b>1,293.5</b>	<b>1,357.4</b>	<b>19.4%</b>
Direct Emissions	484.6	522.7	549.0	531.1	494.3	516.0	531.6	7.6%
CO <sub>2</sub>	340.0	372.8	401.4	386.8	353.1	372.7	387.4	5.5%
CH <sub>4</sub>	136.4	139.1	136.4	132.7	129.4	131.0	131.5	1.9%
N <sub>2</sub> O	8.3	9.0	9.1	9.0	9.1	9.4	9.5	0.1%
HFCs	+	1.9	2.1	2.5	2.7	2.9	3.2	+
Electricity-Related	646.6	690.5	721.1	734.5	772.0	777.5	825.7	11.8%
CO <sub>2</sub>	633.2	678.5	708.9	723.1	761.8	768.9	817.3	11.7%
CH <sub>4</sub>	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	+
N <sub>2</sub> O	2.6	2.7	2.9	2.9	3.0	3.1	3.2	+
SF <sub>6</sub>	10.6	9.0	9.2	8.3	6.9	5.3	5.0	0.1%
<b>Commercial</b>	<b>890.7</b>	<b>944.9</b>	<b>974.3</b>	<b>1,022.4</b>	<b>1,040.0</b>	<b>1,057.5</b>	<b>1,113.8</b>	<b>15.9%</b>
Direct Emissions	303.5	313.0	320.8	320.9	302.9	307.1	327.6	4.7%
CO <sub>2</sub>	222.5	230.8	240.1	241.6	225.0	227.9	247.6	3.5%
CH <sub>4</sub>	79.7	80.9	79.0	77.1	75.1	75.9	76.1	1.1%
N <sub>2</sub> O	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	+
HFCs	0.9	0.9	1.3	1.8	2.4	2.9	3.5	+
Electricity-Related	587.1	631.9	653.5	701.5	737.0	750.4	786.2	11.2%
CO <sub>2</sub>	575.0	621.0	642.4	690.6	727.3	742.1	778.1	11.1%
CH <sub>4</sub>	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	+
N <sub>2</sub> O	2.3	2.5	2.6	2.8	2.9	3.0	3.1	+
SF <sub>6</sub>	9.7	8.3	8.3	7.9	6.6	5.1	4.8	0.1%
<b>Agriculture</b>	<b>520.5</b>	<b>561.8</b>	<b>564.3</b>	<b>568.2</b>	<b>571.4</b>	<b>567.0</b>	<b>557.7</b>	<b>8.0%</b>
Direct Emissions	494.7	533.3	533.3	544.2	545.1	544.9	535.5	7.6%
CO <sub>2</sub>	46.3	56.9	52.0	58.3	57.6	59.9	50.4	0.7%
CH <sub>4</sub>	164.9	176.2	171.5	170.9	171.6	171.1	169.6	2.4%
N <sub>2</sub> O	283.5	300.2	309.8	315.0	316.0	313.9	315.5	4.5%
Electricity-Related	25.8	28.5	31.0	24.1	26.2	22.0	22.2	0.3%
CO <sub>2</sub>	25.3	28.0	30.5	23.7	25.9	21.8	22.0	0.3%
CH <sub>4</sub>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
N <sub>2</sub> O	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	+
SF <sub>6</sub>	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	+
<b>U.S. Territories</b>	<b>28.1</b>	<b>35.3</b>	<b>27.0</b>	<b>29.1</b>	<b>34.4</b>	<b>35.8</b>	<b>38.0</b>	<b>0.5%</b>
CO <sub>2</sub>	28.1	35.3	27.0	29.1	34.4	35.8	38.0	0.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,130.7</b>	<b>6,481.8</b>	<b>6,669.8</b>	<b>6,748.1</b>	<b>6,756.2</b>	<b>6,829.5</b>	<b>7,001.2</b>	<b>-</b>

Note: Emissions from electricity generation are allocated based on aggregate electricity consumption in each end-use sector.

Totals may not sum due to independent rounding.

+ Does not exceed 0.05 Tg CO<sub>2</sub> Eq. or 0.05 percent.

<sup>a</sup> Percents for year 2000.

<sup>b</sup> Includes primarily HFC-134a.

**Table 1-13: Electricity Generation-Related Greenhouse Gas Emissions (Tg CO<sub>2</sub> Eq.)**

Gas/Fuel Type or Source	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
<b>CO<sub>2</sub></b>	<b>1,858.9</b>	<b>1,989.3</b>	<b>2,061.2</b>	<b>2,137.9</b>	<b>2,226.4</b>	<b>2,246.2</b>	<b>2,352.5</b>
Coal	1,541.5	1,647.9	1,739.1	1,789.0	1,817.0	1,828.0	1,915.4
Natural Gas	213.8	276.8	252.5	270.4	302.9	310.4	341.9
Petroleum	103.4	64.5	69.5	78.4	106.5	107.7	95.2
Geothermal	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	+	+
<b>CH<sub>4</sub></b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>0.6</b>
Stationary Sources*	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6
<b>N<sub>2</sub>O</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>8.4</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>8.9</b>	<b>8.9</b>	<b>9.3</b>
Stationary Sources*	7.6	8.0	8.4	8.7	8.9	8.9	9.3
<b>SF<sub>6</sub></b>	<b>31.2</b>	<b>26.5</b>	<b>26.8</b>	<b>24.5</b>	<b>20.1</b>	<b>15.5</b>	<b>14.4</b>
Electrical Transmission and Distribution	31.2	26.5	26.8	24.5	20.1	15.5	14.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,898.2</b>	<b>2,024.3</b>	<b>2,096.9</b>	<b>2,171.6</b>	<b>2,256.1</b>	<b>2,271.2</b>	<b>2,376.9</b>

Note: Totals may not sum due to independent rounding.

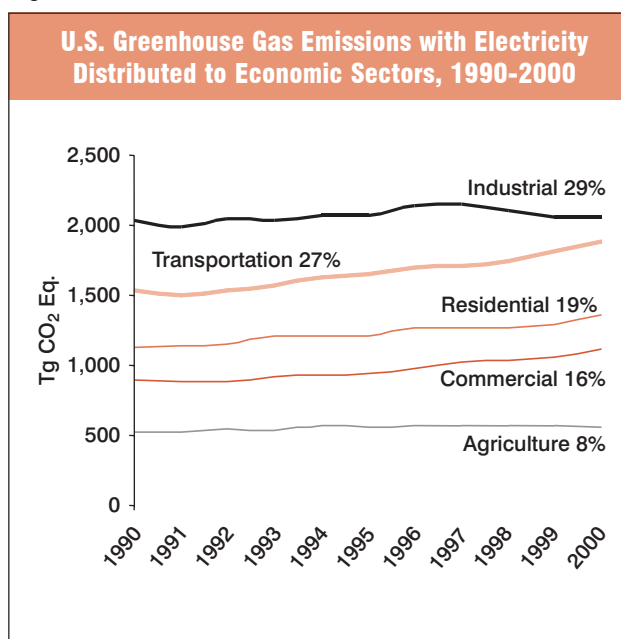
\* Includes only stationary source emissions related to the generation of electricity.

+ Does not exceed 0.05 Tg CO<sub>2</sub> Eq.

## Methodology and Data Sources

Emissions of greenhouse gases from various source and sink categories have been estimated using methodologies that are consistent with the *Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories* (IPCC/UNEP/OECD/IEA 1997). To the extent possible, the present U.S. Inventory relies on published activity and emission factor data. Depending on the emission source category, activity data can include fuel consumption or deliveries, vehicle-miles traveled, raw material processed, etc.; emission factors are factors that relate quantities of emissions to an activity. For some sources, IPCC default methodologies and emission factors have been employed. However, for most emission sources, the IPCC default methodologies were expanded and more comprehensive methods were applied.

Inventory emission estimates from energy consumption and production activities are based primarily on the latest official fuel consumption data from the Energy Information Administration (EIA) of the U.S. Department of Energy and augmented with additional data where available. Emission estimates for NO<sub>x</sub>, CO, and NMVOCs were taken directly, except where noted, from unpublished EPA data that provide the latest estimates of regional and national emissions of local air pollutants (EPA 2001). Emissions of these pollutants are estimated by the EPA based on statistical information about each source category, emission factors, and control efficiencies. While the EPA's estimation methodologies for local air pollutants are conceptually

**Figure 1-7**

similar to the IPCC recommended methodologies, the large number of sources EPA used in developing its local air pollutant estimates makes it difficult to reproduce the methodologies from EPA (2001) in this inventory document. In these instances, the references containing detailed documentation of the methods used are identified for the interested reader. For agricultural sources, the EPA local air pollutant emission estimates were supplemented using activity data from other agencies. Complete documentation of the methodologies and data sources used is provided in conjunction with the discussion of each source and in the various annexes.

**Table 1-14: Transportation-Related Greenhouse Gas Emissions (Tg CO<sub>2</sub> Eq.)**

Gas/Vehicle Type	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
<b>CO<sub>2</sub></b>	<b>1,474.5</b>	<b>1,582.0</b>	<b>1,621.3</b>	<b>1,631.5</b>	<b>1,657.7</b>	<b>1,731.0</b>	<b>1,792.2</b>
Passenger Cars	619.9	641.9	654.1	660.2	673.5	687.2	691.7
Light-Duty Trucks	283.1	325.3	333.5	337.3	356.4	366.5	369.4
Other Trucks	206.0	235.9	248.1	257.0	257.9	282.4	294.3
Buses	10.7	13.5	11.3	12.0	12.4	13.1	13.7
Aircraft <sup>a</sup>	176.9	171.4	180.2	178.9	183.0	186.7	196.5
Boats and Vessels	59.4	66.9	63.8	50.2	47.8	63.0	89.9
Locomotives	28.5	31.6	33.6	34.5	33.8	35.3	36.9
Other <sup>b</sup>	90.1	95.3	96.8	101.5	93.0	96.7	99.9
International Bunker Fuels <sup>c</sup>	113.9	101.0	102.3	109.9	112.9	105.3	100.2
<b>CH<sub>4</sub></b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>4.4</b>
Passenger Cars	2.4	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.9	1.9
Light-Duty Trucks	1.6	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.5
Other Trucks and Buses	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
Aircraft	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2
Boats	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Locomotives	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	+	+	0.1
Other <sup>d</sup>	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
International Bunker Fuels <sup>c</sup>	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
<b>N<sub>2</sub>O</b>	<b>50.9</b>	<b>60.4</b>	<b>60.1</b>	<b>59.7</b>	<b>59.1</b>	<b>58.7</b>	<b>58.3</b>
Passenger Cars	31.1	33.1	32.7	32.2	32.0	31.2	30.7
Light-Duty Trucks	14.4	21.0	20.9	21.0	20.6	20.6	20.4
Other Trucks and Buses	2.5	3.3	3.4	3.5	3.6	3.8	3.8
Aircraft	1.7	1.7	1.8	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.9
Boats	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.6
Locomotives	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Other <sup>d</sup>	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6
International Bunker Fuels <sup>c</sup>	1.0	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.9
<b>HFCs</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>11.8</b>	<b>15.4</b>	<b>18.9</b>	<b>22.0</b>	<b>24.8</b>
Mobile Air Conditioners <sup>e</sup>	+	6.7	9.8	12.9	15.7	18.2	20.4
Refrigerated Transport	+	1.2	1.9	2.5	3.2	3.8	4.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,530.4</b>	<b>1,655.1</b>	<b>1,697.9</b>	<b>1,711.2</b>	<b>1,740.2</b>	<b>1,816.0</b>	<b>1,879.7</b>

+ Does not exceed 0.05 Tg CO<sub>2</sub> Eq.

Note: Totals may not sum due to independent rounding.

<sup>a</sup> Aircraft emissions consist of emissions from all jet fuel (less bunker fuels) and aviation gas consumption.

<sup>b</sup> "Other" CO<sub>2</sub> emissions include motorcycles, construction equipment, agricultural machinery, pipelines, and lubricants.

<sup>c</sup> Emissions from International Bunker Fuels include emissions from both civilian and military activities, but are not included in totals.

<sup>d</sup> "Other" CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O emissions include motorcycles, construction equipment, agricultural machinery, industrial equipment, and snowmobiles.

<sup>e</sup> Includes primarily HFC-134a.

Emissions from fossil fuels combusted in civilian and military ships and aircraft engaged in the international transport of passengers and cargo are not included in U.S. totals, but are reported separately as international bunkers in accordance with IPCC reporting guidelines (IPCC/UNEP/OECD/IEA 1997). Carbon dioxide emissions from fuel combusted within U.S. territories, however, are included in U.S. totals.

In order to aggregate emissions by economic sector, source category emission estimates were generated according to the methodologies outlined in the appropriate

sections of this Inventory. Those emissions, then, were simply reallocated into economic sectors. In most cases, the IPCC subcategories distinctly fit into an apparent economic sector category. Several exceptions exist, and the methodologies used to disaggregate these subcategories are described below:

- *Agricultural CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions from Fossil Fuel Combustion, and non-CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from Stationary and Mobile Combustion.* Emissions from on-farm energy use were accounted for in the Energy chapter as part of the industrial and transportation end-use

### Box 1-3: IPCC Good Practice Guidance

In response to a request by Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) finalized a set of good practice guidance in May 2000 on uncertainty and good practices in inventory management. The report, entitled *Good Practice Guidance and Uncertainty Management in National Greenhouse Gas Inventories (Good Practice)*, was developed with extensive participation of experts from the United States as well as many other countries.<sup>25</sup> It focuses on providing direction to countries to produce emission estimates that are as accurate, with the least possible uncertainty. In addition, *Good Practice* was designed as a tool to compliment the methodologies suggested in the *Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories (IPCC Guidelines)*. In order to obtain these goals, *Good Practice* establishes a set of guidelines for ensuring the following standards are met:

- The most appropriate estimation method is used, within the context of the *IPCC Guidelines*
- Quality control and quality assurance measures are adhered to
- Proper assessment and documentation of data and information is carried out
- Uncertainties are quantified and tracked for each source category as well as the inventory in its entirety

By providing such direction, the IPCC hopes to help countries provide inventories that are transparent, documented, and comparable, and that have been assessed for uncertainties, checked for quality control and quality assurance, and used resources efficiently.

sectors. To calculate agricultural emissions related to fossil fuel combustion, energy consumption estimates were obtained from economic survey data from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (Duffield 2002). To avoid double counting, emission estimates of CO<sub>2</sub> from fossil fuel combustion and non-CO<sub>2</sub> from stationary and mobile sources were subtracted from the industrial economic sector, although some of these fuels may have been originally be accounted for under the transportation end-use sector.

- *Landfills and Waste Combustion.* Methane emissions from landfills, as well as CO<sub>2</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O emissions from waste combustion were allocated to the residential (56 percent), commercial (37 percent), and industrial (7 percent) economic sectors based on waste generation surveys (EPA 2000).
- *Substitution of Ozone Depleting Substances.* All greenhouse gas emissions resulting from the substitution of ozone depleting substances were placed in the industrial economic sector, with the exception of emissions from domestic, commercial, mobile and transport refrigeration/air-conditioning systems were placed in the residential, commercial, and transportation sectors, respectively. Emissions from non-MDI aerosols were attributed to the residential economic sector.

The IPCC requires countries to complete a “top-down” Reference Approach for estimating CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel combustion in addition to their “bottom-up” sectoral methodology. This estimation method uses alternative methodologies and different data sources than those contained in that section of the Energy chapter. Section 1.3 of the *Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories: Reporting Instructions* states, “If a detailed, Sectoral Approach for energy has been used for the estimation of CO<sub>2</sub> from fuel combustion you are still asked to complete...the Reference Approach...for verification purposes” (IPCC/UNEP/OECD/IEA 1997). This reference method estimates fossil fuel consumption by adjusting national aggregate fuel production data for imports, exports, and stock changes rather than relying on end-user consumption surveys (see Annex U). The reference approach assumes that once carbon-based fuels are brought into a national economy they are either saved in some way (e.g., stored in products, kept in fuel stocks, or left unoxidized in ash) or combusted, and therefore the carbon in them is oxidized and released into the atmosphere. Accounting for actual consumption of fuels at the sectoral or sub-national level is not required.

<sup>25</sup> See <<http://www.ipcc-nggip.iges.or.jp/public/gp/gpgaum.htm>>



# Uncertainty in and Limitations of Emission Estimates

While the current U.S. emissions inventory provides a solid foundation for the development of a more detailed and comprehensive national inventory, it has several strengths and weaknesses.

First, this inventory by itself does not provide a complete picture of past or future emissions in the United States; it only provides an inventory of U.S. emissions for the years 1990 through 2000. However, the United States believes that common and consistent inventories taken over a period of time can and will contribute to understanding future emission trends. The United States produced its first comprehensive inventory of greenhouse gas emissions and sinks in 1993, and intends to update it annually, in conjunction with its commitments under the UNFCCC. The methodologies used to estimate emissions will also be updated regularly as methods and information improve and as further guidance is received from the IPCC and UNFCCC.

Secondly, there are uncertainties associated with the emission estimates. Some of the current estimates, such as those for CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from energy-related activities and cement processing, are considered to be fairly accurate. For some other categories of emissions, however, a lack of data or an incomplete understanding of how emissions are generated limits the scope or accuracy of the estimates

presented. Despite these uncertainties, the *Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories* (IPCC/UNEP/OECD/IEA 1997) require that countries provide single point estimates for each gas and emission or removal source category. Within the discussion of each emission source, specific factors affecting the accuracy of the estimates are discussed.

Finally, while the IPCC methodologies provided in the *Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines* represent baseline methodologies for a variety of source categories, many of these methodologies continue to be improved and refined as new research and data becomes available. The current U.S. inventory uses the IPCC methodologies when applicable, and supplements them with other available methodologies and data where possible. The United States realizes that additional efforts are still needed to improve methodologies and data collection procedures. Specific areas requiring further research include:

- *Incorporating excluded emission sources.* Quantitative estimates of some of the sources and sinks of greenhouse gas emissions are not available at this time. In particular, emissions from some land-use activities and industrial processes are not included in the inventory either because data are incomplete or because methodologies do not exist for estimating emissions from these source categories. See Annex V for a discussion of the sources of greenhouse gas emissions and sinks excluded from this report.

Table 1-15: IPCC Sector Descriptions

Chapter/IPCC	Sector Activities Included
Energy	Emissions of all greenhouse gases resulting from stationary and mobile energy activities including fuel combustion and fugitive fuel emissions.
Industrial Processes	By-product or fugitive emissions of greenhouse gases from industrial processes not directly related to energy activities such as fossil fuel combustion.
Solvent Use	Emissions, of primarily non-methane volatile organic compounds (NMVOCs), resulting from the use of solvents.
Agriculture	Anthropogenic emissions from agricultural activities except fuel combustion and sewage emissions, which are addressed under Energy and Waste, respectively.
Land-Use Change and Forestry	Emissions and removals of carbon dioxide from forest management, other land-use activities, and land-use change.
Waste	Emissions from waste management activities.
Source: (IPCC/UNEP/OECD/IEA 1997)	

- *Improving the accuracy of emission factors.* Further research is needed in some cases to improve the accuracy of emission factors used to calculate emissions from a variety of sources. For example, the accuracy of current emission factors applied to methane and nitrous oxide emissions from stationary and mobile combustion is highly uncertain.
- *Collecting detailed activity data.* Although methodologies exist for estimating emissions for some sources, problems arise in obtaining activity data at a level of detail in which aggregate emission factors can be applied. For example, the ability to estimate emissions of SF<sub>6</sub> from electrical transmission and distribution is limited due to a lack of activity data regarding national SF<sub>6</sub> consumption or average equipment leak rates.
- *Applying Global Warming Potentials.* GWP values have several limitations including that they are not applicable to unevenly distributed gases and aerosols

such as tropospheric ozone and its precursors. They are also intended to reflect global averages and, therefore, do not account for regional effects. Overall, the main uncertainties in developing GWP values are the estimation of atmospheric lifetimes, assessing indirect effects, choosing the appropriate integration time horizon, and assessing instantaneous radiative forcing effects which are dependent upon existing atmospheric concentrations. According to the IPCC, GWPs typically have an uncertainty of 35 percent (IPCC 1996).

Emissions calculated for the U.S. inventory reflect current best estimates; in some cases, however, estimates are based on approximate methodologies, assumptions, and incomplete data. As new information becomes available in the future, the United States will continue to improve and revise its emission estimates.

**Table 1-16: List of Annexes**

ANNEX A	Methodology for Estimating Emissions of CO <sub>2</sub> from Fossil Fuel Combustion
ANNEX B	Methodology for Estimating Carbon Stored in Products from Non-Energy Uses of Fossil Fuels
ANNEX C	Methodology for Estimating Emissions of CH <sub>4</sub> , N <sub>2</sub> O, and Ambient Air Pollutants from Stationary Combustion
ANNEX D	Methodology for Estimating Emissions of CH <sub>4</sub> , N <sub>2</sub> O, and Ambient Air Pollutants from Mobile Combustion
ANNEX E	Methodology for Estimating CH <sub>4</sub> Emissions from Coal Mining
ANNEX F	Methodology for Estimating CH <sub>4</sub> Emissions from Natural Gas Systems
ANNEX G	Methodology for Estimating CH <sub>4</sub> Emissions from Petroleum Systems
ANNEX H	Methodology for Estimating CO <sub>2</sub> Emissions from Municipal Solid Waste Combustion
ANNEX I	Methodology for Estimating Emissions from International Bunker Fuels used by the U.S. Military
ANNEX J	Methodology for Estimating HFC, PFC, and SF <sub>6</sub> Emissions from Substitution of Ozone Depleting Substances
ANNEX K	Methodology for Estimating CH <sub>4</sub> Emissions from Enteric Fermentation
ANNEX L	Methodology for Estimating CH <sub>4</sub> and N <sub>2</sub> O Emissions from Manure Management
ANNEX M	Methodology for Estimating N <sub>2</sub> O Emissions from Agricultural Soil Management
ANNEX N	Methodology for Estimating CO <sub>2</sub> Emissions and Sinks from Forest Carbon Stocks
ANNEX O	Methodology for Estimating CH <sub>4</sub> Emissions from Landfills
ANNEX P	Key Source Analysis
ANNEX Q	Global Warming Potential Values
ANNEX R	Ozone Depleting Substance Emissions
ANNEX S	Sulfur Dioxide Emissions
ANNEX T	Complete List of Source Categories
ANNEX U	IPCC Reference Approach for Estimating CO <sub>2</sub> Emissions from Fossil Fuel Combustion
ANNEX V	Sources of Greenhouse Gas Emissions Excluded
ANNEX W	Constants, Units, and Conversions
ANNEX X	Abbreviations
ANNEX Y	Chemical Formulas
ANNEX Z	Glossary

## Organization of Report

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In accordance with the IPCC guidelines for reporting contained in the *Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories* (IPCC/UNEP/OECD/IEA 1997), this U.S. inventory of greenhouse gas emissions and sinks is segregated into six sector-specific chapters, listed in Table 1-15.

Within each chapter, emissions are identified by the anthropogenic activity that is the source or sink of the greenhouse gas emissions being estimated (e.g., coal mining). Overall, the following organizational structure is consistently applied throughout this report:

**Chapter/IPCC Sector:** Overview of emission trends for each IPCC defined sector

**Source Category:** Description of source pathway and emission trends.

- **Methodology:** Description of analytical methods employed to produce emission estimates
- **Data Sources:** Identification of data references, primarily for activity data and emission factors
- **Uncertainty:** Discussion of relevant issues related to the uncertainty in the emission estimates presented

Special attention is given to carbon dioxide from fossil fuel combustion relative to other sources because of its share of emissions relative to other sources and its dominant influence on emission trends. For example, each energy consuming end-use sector (i.e., residential, commercial, industrial, and transportation), as well as the electricity generation sector, are treated individually. Additional information for certain source categories and other topics is also provided in several Annexes listed in Table 1-16.